

THE PRODUCER

THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK MONTHLY

Volume I

DENVER, COLO., JUNE, 1919

Number 1

The Forest Service and the Stockman Co-operation with a Big "C"

By WILL C. BARNES

THE keystone of every department of human activity today is Co-operation, of which the "League of Nations" is probably the latest and most interesting phase.

Soon after the organization of the Forest Service on its present basis, the stockmen using some of the national forests formed state and local co-operative associations as a means for combating, through organized effort, the new-born idea, which they fully believed was meant, not for their protection, as its originators said, but for what the stockmen felt would be their ultimate extinction.

Very early in the game the men in charge of the Branch of Grazing of the Forest Service realized that there must be close and harmonious co-operation

between the government and the stockmen, if their whole plan of controlled grazing was to succeed. With a keen vision for the future, they seized upon these very stock associations which, with a few notable exceptions, were inclined to work against, rather than with, the Service, as the best possible means of bringing about the desired co-operation and friendship.

In order that the forest officers and stockmen might get together more readily, the formation of an advisory board in each association, authorized to represent and act for it, was provided for by a regulation of the Secretary of Agriculture. This enabled both sides to meet on some common ground and thresh out the matters which the

stockmen wished to have considered.

This advisory-board arrangement was a success from the start. The forest officers saw their opportunity, and encouraged the formation of these organizations, originally formed for war, as a means of promoting peace and good-fellowship between the two sides.

Range Improvements

One of the first opportunities for such co-operation was in the building

and maintenance of certain improvements on the ranges, such as drift-fences, digging out and improving springs and water-holes, fencing up bog-holes in which hundreds of cattle died every year, clearing out driveways through down timber, and building bridges across swift mountain streams. Under the old conditions, this work had been nobody's particular business. If some public-spirited



WATER FROM SPRINGS PIPED TO TROUGHS

stockman wanted to do such work, the rest generally sat back and watched him do it—and then got the benefit without its costing them a red cent.

The regulations were so worded that whenever a stock association holding within its membership a majority of the permittees on a national forest, or part of one, asked for the approval of a "special rule" calling for the expenditure of money or labor for any such range improvement, if the Service approved the special rule, every user of the range benefited by the work must recognize and obey the rule and pay his pro-rata share of the cost, whether he was a member of the association or not.

It certainly seemed radical at first, and we looked for trouble on every side. But it didn't come. Quite to the contrary, ninety-nine out of every hundred permittees

by the Forester, no man on that particular range could get his permit from the supervisor until he presented a receipt from the secretary of the association showing that he had paid his pro-rata share of the cost. Sounds pretty fierce, doesn't it? But it worked beautifully, and on this particular bit of improvement work there wasn't a delinquent in the bunch. The payments, it should be added, were scattered over a period of several years.

For the first time in the history of the open range stock business, improvements of this kind, admittedly of value to every user of the range, could be erected and maintained, and at the same time every man could be made to pay his fair share of the cost. The effect was magical, and the thing began to take root and spread like a prairie fire.



DRIFT-FENCE ON A NATIONAL FOREST

Such fences are invaluable to the stockmen in handling their herds

accepted the situation and became "good Injuns," whether they were members of the association or not. The small number who objected to the scheme emitted a few dismal wails about their inherent right to sit back and "let George do it;" but finally subsided; and today the objectors are so few and far between that they don't count any more.

Under this special-rule arrangement, the stockmen on a national forest in Arizona built a single line of drift-fence, about sixty miles long, which cost them over ten thousand dollars, and every stockman using the range involved paid his fair and just proportion of the cost through the association.

How did the association collect it? Simplest thing you ever knew. When the rule had once been approved

Salt on the Ranges

Take salt. Now, since the earliest days of the business, salt on the open cattle ranges has been one of the open sores of the industry, and a source of friction between the cowmen, both big and little. The little men put what salt they used in their home corrals, and carefully "shooed" their neighbors' cows away from the vicinity, lest some of them get a lick at it. Not only that, but the big men who did put out salt swore that most of the salt in the small men's corrals was carried off from their salt grounds and taken to the corrals of the small but industrious cow gentlemen.

The result was that, on all the cow ranges in the whole West, cattle suffered the year round for lack of salt. The stockmen appealed to the forest officers for a solution of

their salting problems. "Get up a special rule that will cover the needs of the case, and we will enforce it," they were told. Promptly several pioneer stock associations came back with a special rule which required every cattle permittee on the range to furnish his quota of salt, the usual requirements being about a pound per month for each animal. This was to be handled through the advisory boards, which were to buy the entire amount of salt

required for the range, hire men to distribute it over the forests, and then assess each permittee for his pro-rata share of the whole cost. Under the old methods of salting, what salt was placed on the range was generally dumped in the middle of some pretty meadow, right along the road where it was handiest to unload. This resulted in a concentration of the cattle, which tramped out and utterly ruined thousands of acres of the best feed in the forest. To put a stop to this, the forest officers laid out salt grounds on a regular plan, the basis being lots of small salting places located in out-of-the-way spots in the forest, on rocky ridges, and such places, where the forage would not be injured. These locations were marked by salt signs attached to trees or posts, and the distribution was done according to a regular plan which coaxed the cows out from the more easily grazed spots of the range into the somewhat inaccessible places. The result of this plan of handling the salting business was that each man paid for his just share of the salt, his salt cost him less, every part of the range was salted, and through the coaxing properties of the salt the range was far better utilized. In fact, the improvement in the distribution of the cattle enabled the forest officers to increase by an average of more than 10 per cent the number of cattle formerly grazed upon the ranges.

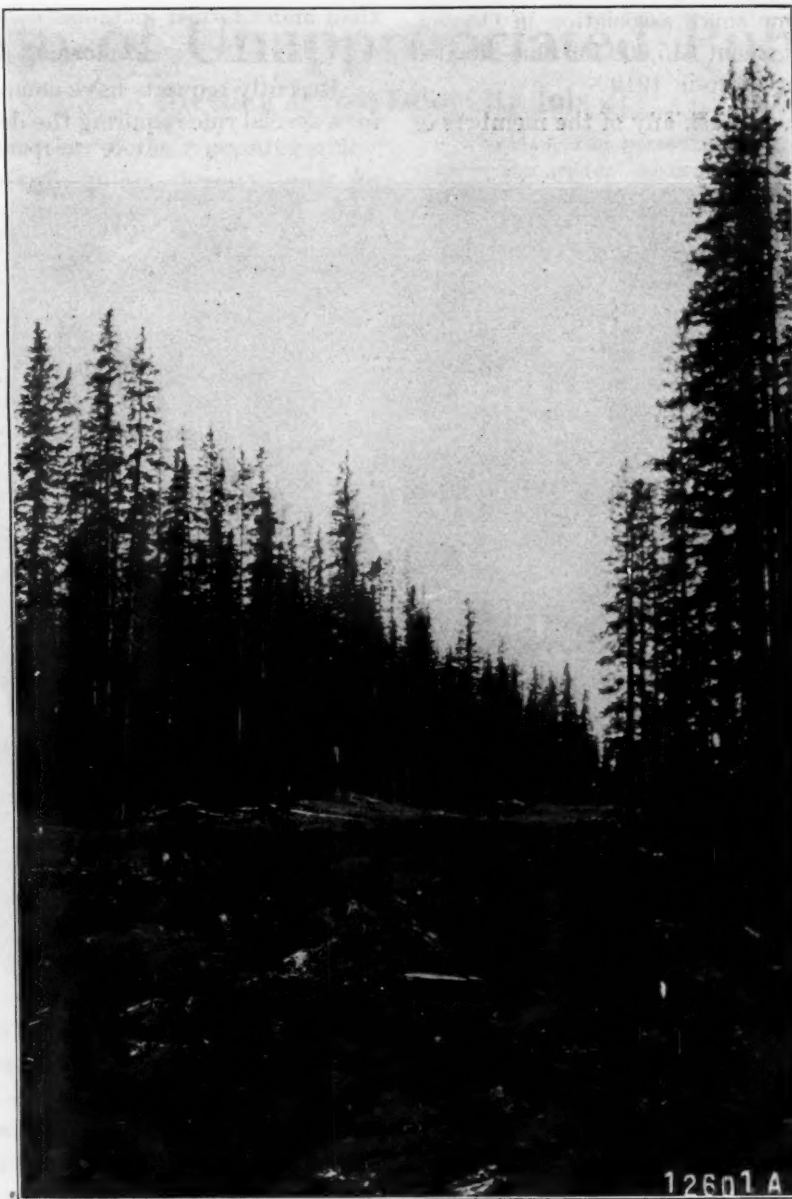
The Bull Question

This salting plan worked so well that the more energetic of the stockmen began to look for new fields of co-operation. "How about bulls?" they asked casually. "Can't some way be provided for handling the question of bulls on the ranges along the same lines as the salt?"

The forest officers scratched their heads, individually and collectively. They admitted that the salt problem

had been solved, but the outlay for salt meant but a few cents per cow each year—not enough for a disgruntled cowman to fuss about. "But with bulls there's a difference again," as Mr. Perlmutter might say. However, they reasoned that the only way to find out how the plan would work with bulls was to put it into effect somewhere, and note the results.

Everybody knew that the question of bulls on the range was the worst problem of all. About every state in the West has some sort of bull law, but nobody to date can point to a single case of its having been enforced. Moreover, there was no uniformity in the breed of bulls used. Aberdeen-Angus, Herefords, Shorthorns, Devons, Holsteins, Jerseys, Ayrshires, and "just bulls," all romped about on the ranges at their own sweet will. Talk about your "melt-ing-pots"! Some of the western cattle ranges have surely been all



CATTLE DRIVEWAY ON A NATIONAL FOREST

This driveway is cut through heavy timber and cleared of obstructions—a co-operative job

that these words mean in the happy-go-lucky breeding of the stock being raised upon them.

So the special rule was invoked to meet this situation. Under it the associations have required that only bulls of a certain breed may be used on the ranges. One wished only "Red Shorthorns;" another, Galloways; others, Herefords; and on certain ranges, where the dairy business was the leading industry, Jerseys were called for. Some

wanted pure-breds, while others would be satisfied with nothing less than registered animals.

Several variations in the special rule for handling the bulls have been worked out; the most satisfactory being where, after all the old bulls have been removed, the advisory board, in the name of the association, has bought and owns all the bulls used on the ranges, puts them on and takes them off at certain specified dates, sees to their feeding during the winter, and replaces, at the cost of the association, any that die. One small association in Oregon, composed of small owners, spent \$15,000 for blue-blooded bulls in 1918, and will buy more in 1919.

Has it worked? Well, just ask any of the members of

personally, and the cost of hiring a herder was too great. Under a special rule, the advisory boards are now handling this subject very successfully. It hires the herder, looks after his work during the season, and the owners are relieved from all responsibility for the handling of their cattle while on the forest ranges, receiving them from the hands of the herders at the close of the season at some certain point. The cost of this service to the individual has been extremely low, while the cattle received far more attention than under former methods.

Dehorning Cattle

Recently requests have come from several associations for a special rule requiring the dehorning of all cattle using



SALTING GROUNDS ON A NATIONAL FOREST

any of the more than 450 different stock associations scattered through the various national forests that have been formed under this co-operative plan. I doubt if you will find a single owner who will complain of its requirements. You will be told that already the improvement in the young stock begins to show. The steers are more even—all of one color, size, shape, and build—and they sell more readily; for the buyers, knowing the character of the bulls used, do not have to go out on the ranges to size up a bunch, but take them on their breeding.

Hiring Herders

On some of our forests, where the number of small owners is large—mostly men with from ten to fifteen head each—it has been difficult to handle the cattle on the ranges, as the owners could not afford to look after them

the ranges. This really seemed to be about the limit of such co-operation; but, as those asking for the rule were good, wide-awake stockmen—men who knew their business and its needs—it has been put into effect on several forests, and so far seems to be working out quite as nicely as the salting, bull, or improvement rules.

Looking back over the last eight years of this co-operation, and studying the benefits the industry has received from it, the forest officers feel they have been well repaid for all the trouble they have taken to get the thing started off right.

And it has been a lot of trouble and hard work. In the majority of cases, the various forest supervisors have done much of the clerical work for the secretaries of the associations during the first year or two of organization, when the latter were unacquainted with their duties and

the manner of handling the situation. Take a forest like the Fillmore in Utah, with over 1,700 permittees, all members of some one of the fifteen or twenty stock associations covering the different districts in that forest. The work of a secretary was very arduous. Here the forest supervisors and their office forces gladly lent a helping hand, and carried most of the burden during the early months of the association.

Nor do we consider the field covered by any means. It is not going too far to estimate that within the next two or three years we shall have twice as many stock associations as at present, and that new and hitherto unsuspected avenues of activities will be opened up under this co-operation between the Forest Service, on the one hand, and, on the other, the 40,000 permittees using the national forest ranges for their live stock.

Regulation of Unappropriated Public Land

Meeting at Salt Lake City July 21

THE control or disposition of the remaining unappropriated, unreserved, public domain, and its conservation, is one of the most important problems now confronting the range stockmen. For many years the American National Live Stock Association favored either a lease of this land, or its regulation under rules similar to those governing the administration of the national forests. On the other hand, when this issue was before Congress ten years ago, most of the sheep associations, through their national organization, opposed any kind of regulation. Since then the sheepmen have realized that their opposition was a mistake, and now practically all the sheep associations of the West stand united with the cattlemen in urging some regulation of the remaining open range. When the Kent Bill was being considered by the Public Land Committee of the House of Representatives, a few years ago, the sheep associations joined with the cattle associations in urging its passage. Instead of the Kent Bill, however, the Public Land Committee of the House of Representatives favorably reported what is known as the 640-Acre Stock-Raising Homestead Bill, which passed both houses, and was approved by the President on December 29, 1916.

It is believed that about 25,000,000 acres of land will finally go to title under the 640-acre act. There will remain, in round figures, about 200,000,000 acres of land, practically all of which is fit only for the grazing of live stock. This is admitted by every student of the problem. In their addresses before the Twenty-second Annual Convention of the American National Live Stock Association, held at Denver in January, 1919, Hon. David F. Houston, Secretary of Agriculture, and Hon. Clay Tallman, Commissioner of the General Land Office, both acknowledged that the time had arrived for some reasonable disposition, regulation, and consequently conservation, of this remaining public domain.

At that meeting the following resolution was passed:

WHEREAS, The American National Live Stock Association is desirous of rendering every assistance possible toward the increase of meat production, which is dependent upon the true reclamation of a greater portion of the arid land of the West through grazing of live stock; and

WHEREAS, Grazing on the public lands produces a very considerable portion of the meat supply; and

WHEREAS, The present uncontrolled method of grazing results in the gradual destruction of the range, and, therefore, a diminished meat supply; therefore be it

Resolved, By the American National Live Stock Association, at its Twenty-second Annual Convention at Denver, Colo., January 21-23, 1919, that grazing of live stock upon the remaining unappropriated public domain be as speedily as possible regulated and controlled by the federal government. * * *

Since the meeting of the National Association, all the state live-stock organizations in the public-land states have held their annual conventions and considered this question. With but few exceptions, the sentiment has everywhere been in favor of some regulation by a lease or permit system. Some stockmen advocate the sale of the land in grazing units, with a maximum acreage to any one outfit; a few are opposed to any legislation; but the great majority feel that any plan would be an improvement over the present deplorable conditions.

The New Mexico Cattle and Horse Growers' Association, at its convention in Albuquerque, March 25-27, petitioned Congress to grant to the State of New Mexico all the remaining public domain within the boundaries of that commonwealth.

At the convention of the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association, held at Phoenix, February 11-13, the following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, This association has by resolution gone on record as favoring the regulation and control of the unappropriated and unreserved public domain by the federal government; and

WHEREAS, It seems that such regulation and control could be more quickly and satisfactorily accomplished if all the public-land states would join together to secure such regulation and control; therefore be it

Resolved, By the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association, in convention assembled at Phoenix, Arizona, February 11, 12 and 13, 1919, that the president of this association be hereby authorized and directed to secure a meeting of the representatives of the stock interests of said public-land states, at some central place of meeting. * * *

Pursuant to that resolution, Mr. C. P. Mullen, president of the association, corresponded with the officers of the National Association and the officers of the various state live-stock organizations relative to such conference. All agreed that a meeting to consider the public-

land question was most desirable. Therefore a call has been issued for a conference to be held at the Hotel Utah, Salt Lake City, on July 21, 1919. All the state live-stock associations, and many local organizations of stockmen, have signified their intention to be represented.

Hon. Nicholas J. Sinnott, a member of Congress from the State of Oregon, in an address before the annual convention of the Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association of Oregon, at Bend, Ore., on April 23, very ably discussed this land question and announced his opinion that Congress should provide for a reasonable regulation of the grazing on this land. Mr. Sinnott has for many years been a member of the Public Land Committee of the House of Representatives, and was appointed chairman

of that committee at the opening of the present special session.

At the last session of Congress a bill was passed authorizing the extension of the Modoc National Forest in California to include an area of about 400,000 acres of adjoining land, for the purpose of regulating and improving the grazing thereon. Many stockmen are asking for similar action on the forests they are using.

The time seems ripe for some action on this question, and the meeting in Salt Lake City is most opportune. Stockmen in the public-land states, whether they be cattle- or sheepmen, should unite on some definite, reasonable policy, and urge Congress to enact the necessary legislation.

Range Cattle Prospects for 1919

By JAMES E. POOLE

CONCERN among range cattlemen regarding the probable course of the 1919 market is ill-concealed. Commission-house correspondence is freighted with anxious inquiry as to what is likely to happen during the August-to-December period when the bulk of the beef that comes from trans-Missouri pastures will be gathered. A lower market than that of 1918 is logical; how much lower cattle are to be appraised is the problem. Commission men, in consequence of recent market experience, are refraining from prediction, realizing that ability of the consumer to continue paying war prices is the factor of primary importance. If packers are under the necessity of putting frozen beef away, they will minimize initial cost, as carrying charges are heavy and a beef accumulation is always an uncertainty. If confidence in feeding circles is seriously impaired by a bad summer market, corn continues high, and the winter feed bill is costly in other respects, demand for the thin end will not equal last year's urgency. At that time there was every prospect of another year of war, and feeders competed—somewhat recklessly, perhaps—with killers for fleshy steers with which to make "war beef"—a commodity now out of favor. Consequently packers met competition on most of the western cattle not actually fat. Acreage of the new corn crop is small, reserve stocks are low, and prices are likely to continue high. Consequently, should the summer market for fat cattle discourage feeders, they will lay out of the stocker market. Last season weighty cattle adapted to the specifications of government orders were entitled to a substantial premium, rough rangers weighing over 1,100 pounds outselling choice 900-pound yearlings; but, with the government out of the market, this cannot be repeated. On the other hand, aged western cattle were closely gathered last summer, few outfits retaining four-year-olds; and, as the recent break of \$3 per cwt., or

more, has dislodged mature steers in feeders' hands, it is possible that the July-to-December period may develop a good market for the few western steers weighing upwards of 1,250 pounds that are expected. The principle may be accepted, however, that demand will center on light and handy-weight steers, as the sole prop under heavy cattle prices was removed when the government closed buying.

Range cattle will come early and promise good condition. E. L. Dana has ordered cars for loading July 16 at the Crow Reservation in Montana, and it is probable that August will witness a full movement from the Northwest. As usual, initial sales will be high, since packers have a habit of starting the western season that way. If hides and by-products remain at present prices, there is no logical reason why the bulk of the range cattle from the Northwest should not command within \$2 per cwt. of last year's prices. In a numerical sense, the run will be lighter than that of 1918; but the proportion of cows and young stuff which drought forced to the shambles last year will be lighter, so that beef tonnage may show no actual deficiency.

October and November prices will be determined, in a large measure, by corn-crop prospects, availability of roughage, and the humor in which the Corn Belt feeder happens to be. That element has learned from bitter experience the lesson that competition with packers on fleshy steers is invariably disastrous in the finality of the transaction; but when feed is abundant, or market prospects are healthy, feeders will buy thin cattle, regardless of expense. Much of their present trouble is undoubtedly due to indiscretion when filling feed-lots.

Packers may repeat their winter performance by paying high prices for a few loads of heavy western cattle during the summer and fall. This custom serves sev-

eral purposes, not the least of which is the creation of an impression that the entire crop of beef is valued on the same relative basis. Let a packer pay \$16, or so, for a load of Dana or Heinrich steers from Montana, and every newspaper in the country emblazons it in conspicuous headlines, especially if the price happens to be a record by 10 to 15 cents per cwt. The out-of-line top price creates an impression among consumers that cattle are realizing more than actual cost to killers, stimulates feeding, and prompts the westerner to gather more cattle. It has fooled many a shipper who did not realize that one or two loads of cattle may scratch out a record figure, and a hundred others, but slightly inferior in quality, sell \$1 per cwt. less. One factor favoring the western man this season is that corn is high, roughage scarce, and feeders in the Corn Belt anxious to put cattle money back in the bank at the earliest possible moment—a condition that may clean up fed stuff in Missouri, Iowa, and Illinois during June, July, and August, clearing the decks for the western crop. A good hide market is assured; by-products will continue in demand; and, unless the western movement exceeds present expectancy, cattle should pay out. A hint comes from Packing Town that the big killers, who are in a conciliatory mood, will pay every cent possible for western cattle this year; but probability exists that they may run the market up in sky-rocket fashion one week, breaking it the next, so that not only will many small shippers suffer penalization by landing on the breaks, but average cost will figure much lower than high sales indicate.

At the inception of June live-stock market conditions were unprecedented. Bovine trash commanded a premium; canning and cutting cows got action at prices radically out of line with prime, heavy cattle; common hogs outsold prime butcher weights; and a little wool on the back of a sheep or lamb promptly aroused the buyer's interest. Competition by packers on light steers forced grazers to pay dangerous prices, many paying \$8.50 to \$10 for cows that were merely canners, to get away from high-priced steers. This demand for mediocrity and inferiority was due to ready sale of hides, wool, slats, blood, casings, and all kinds of by-products, especially oleo and other edible fats. Never before have by-products, hides, or pelts represented so large a proportion of the value of a steer or a sheep; consequently meat was of secondary consideration. Within a few weeks prime cattle and heavy cows lost popularity in such emphatic manner as to upset feeders' plans and inflict enormous loss. This condition is likely to continue, as the world's needs of leather and wool are insatiable, and animal by-product is salable at packers' own prices. Makers of shortening and other proprietary edible fats, which are on the market under various brands and contain a large percentage of vegetable oils, are dependent on the packers for animal fats, without which their commodities would not be merchantable. Even an inch of

wool on the back of a sheep makes it attractive to the buyer, a full fleece assuring prompt sale. Anything convertible into sausage is a prize package.

That cattle values have already reached the pinnacle of 1919 trade is generally understood. Until the next war happens along, the \$20 steer will not play a return engagement, nor will such common and rough weighty cattle as earned a premium recently, because they were eligible to government contracts, command the same money. This does not mean reversion to the pre-war basis; but if the public is to consume beef in anything like normal quantities, cost must be reduced; and the same thing applies to mutton. During the last two years of the war retail meat establishments multiplied as the public went the price pace without restraint; but purchasing power has diminished since the armistice was signed; many of these distributors are paying expenses only by what appears to be outrageous profiteering on its face, and, until they have been eliminated, relief is improbable. Asked for a solution of retail price exactions recently, one of the big packers replied: "Fewer retailers. There are three in the business where one is needed. But don't quote me, as I do not care to quarrel with them, for obvious reasons." City rentals are enormous, and have steadily enhanced; union labor dominates the retail business, as it does the packing industry; wages in both spheres having advanced 50 to 75 per cent compared with the pre-war basis. This added cost of conversion and distribution must be shared by the producer and consumer, as the packer and distributor will get their share regardless of hoof cost. The owner of a large meat market in the Chicago Loop, detected by a beefman in the act of exacting outrageous profits, was asked: "How do you get away with it?" "Well, few of them kick," was the response. "In fact, the more we charge, the better they like it." But the fact is that such extortion actually curtails meat consumption. A Chicago sheep salesman, who lives at one of the big Hyde Park hotels, complained not long since of the quality of lamb chops served him. "We buy the best," replied the chef. To convince him of his error, the sheepman ordered half a choice Colorado lamb carcass from Armour to be delivered to the hotel chef gratuitously from the retailer with whom it did business, and was astounded when presented with a bill for 60 cents per pound—a profit of exactly 100 per cent; disclosing the fact that the retailer had been charging the hotel that price for inferior meat. This get-it-while-the-getting-is-good spirit dominates distributive trade, and has been in a large measure responsible for live-stock market demoralization. It is prompting retailers to purchase low- and medium-grade beef, and common sheep and lamb carcasses, in an effort to maintain profits, subjecting qualified goods to severe penalization, discouraging both feeders and breeders. Inferiority and mediocrity are present stock-yard standards—not quality.

We Are a Creditor Nation

THE probable trend of our foreign trade, both in manufactured articles and in agricultural products, and the influence which the abnormal exchange rates and the fact that the United States has become a great creditor nation will exert on our international trade, are problems which are at present being much discussed by economists and financial papers. New York exchange is now commanding a premium all over Europe, ranging from 6 to 50 per cent. Buyers of American products in European countries must pay the price of the goods here, plus transportation charges and the exchange premium. The present exchange rates naturally tend to discourage purchases in this country, and any advance in the rates only increases the handicap. This situation cannot be permanently corrected except by a reduction in our exports and an increase in our imports. The huge trade balances in our favor which we have been piling up during the past twenty years, and particularly during the last five, cannot be paid by returning American securities held abroad. The bulk of these securities have either been liquidated here, or the foreign holders intend to keep them. Just as idle is it to expect these balances to be paid in coin or bullion—there simply is not enough gold in the world. The total production of gold last year, outside of the United States, was but slightly above three hundred million dollars; and, with the present high cost of producing it, the yield is more likely to decline than to increase. No country will incur the risk of having its gold resources endangered; it will rather place an embargo either on gold exports or on imports of other commodities.

In the admirable address of Colonel I. T. Pryor, the retiring president, at the annual convention of the American National Live Stock Association, held in Denver in January, he briefly discussed our international trade, as follows:

Comparison of Imports with Exports

In the early stages of our national life the value of our imports exceeded that of our exports. As usual in new countries, we were also large borrowers. Beginning in the late seventies, the value of our exports slightly exceeded that of our imports. That excess has been gradually growing year by year, and we have thus repaid much of our debtor balance to other nations. By the year 1898 the value of our exports exceeded that of our imports by more than a half billion dollars. With some variations, that average excess was maintained up to the end of 1914. During 1915, because of the war and the general inflation of prices, the excess value of our exports over our imports was close to two billion dollars; and for the past three years the annual average has been about three billion dollars—resulting in a tremendous trade balance in our favor. We have absorbed billions of dollars' worth of our securities held abroad, and are today a great creditor nation, with direct loans or credit to our allies aggregating more than eight billion dollars.

We should not expect, however, to continue to sell annually

three billion dollars' worth of commodities more than we buy. Indeed, after world conditions become more nearly normal, we shall be fortunate if the value of our exports equals that of our imports. For a few years, no doubt, it will exceed it, but in a diminishing ratio; for the time is not far distant when we shall have to buy from other nations as much or more than we sell them, in order to preserve the international trade equilibrium, and give them an opportunity to pay to us their large war debts. We cannot forever go on extending credit to other nations; for in time this would be as bad for us as for them. These basic facts seem to have escaped the attention of those who are so vigorously championing an unlimited extension of our foreign trade in manufactured articles.

It is this inevitable readjustment following our present abnormal trade balance that most vitally concerns the agricultural and live-stock industries. True, it does not immediately confront us; but if it be the policy of this nation to artificially foster and promote an increased export trade in our manufactured articles, in exchange for larger imports of raw materials and food and meat products from wherever available, it is now time that those engaged in the live-stock and agricultural industries should consider how they will be affected. Shall we plan our business on the basis of a continuance of large exports of meat and other food products, or on the theory of a speedy decline in both volume and value of such exports, and the possibility of increased importation, instead of exportation, of some classes of meat-food products?

You may remember that in 1914—the year following the passage of the Underwood Free List Bill, placing live stock, meats, and wool on the free list—this country imported about \$36,000,000 worth of meat products—mostly beef from Argentina. This exceeded the value of our exports of beef products for that year. Had it not been for the war, the imports of beef into this country from Argentina and other South American countries might have materially increased. The situation of 1914 may return.

During the regime of the United States Food Administration and the Allied Provision Export Commission (both of which have passed out of existence) the greatest problem connected with exports of meat products to our allies and to some neutral nations was the question of credit. The United States had to supply the meat and to extend the credit. In fact, the volume of our exports of meat products could have been largely increased, had it been possible to arrange the necessary credit. The present situation accentuates this disability. If Congress, before the close of the last session, had not provided a billion-dollar foreign credit, our export trade would have been seriously hampered. Such extension of credit cannot continue indefinitely; the end must come soon. It is therefore timely that the great financial institutions of this country have awakened to a full realization of the inexorable laws of international trade.

The individual firms in this country cannot extend this credit; they are not financially able. It is a governmental function. From a broad humanitarian standpoint, and that it may continue to play an honorable part

in the existing crisis, this country should arrange for such credit as will enable the people of the world to secure the food they need.

Italy is short of all kinds of food products, and would be glad to import every pound of beef she could get, provided she could pay for it. New York exchange has been selling in Italy at 50 per cent premium. So far as Italy is concerned, we are facing the proposition of either enlarging our already burdensome credit to that nation, restricting our exports to her, or increasing our purchases from her.

France could use more of our beef. But the same problem confronts her: How can she pay for it? While our army was in France, and the French were supplying it with a substantial amount of war materials, the question of finance was not so difficult; but now, with the army returning, our expenses abroad diminishing, and our loans being exhausted, the great difficulty is finance.

A similar situation presents itself in our dealings with the Central Powers, and some of the other warring nations. In fact, the whole question of meat exports from the United States in the immediate future hinges on finance. And, unfortunately, the nations whose needs are the most urgent are the ones who will have the greatest trouble in paying. At the present time foreign governments are mostly handling their imports of meat products. The exportation to foreign firms on private account is small—not because it is forbidden, but because the firms handling meat products have not the money to pay for them.

The northern neutrals could well afford to take greater quantities of meat than they have taken hitherto; but in normal times they have not been large importers of these products, and their needs now are not especially urgent.

The problem of credit, high exchange rates, and inability of foreign nations and consumers to pay for commodities which they really want, or could conveniently use, can be solved either by further extension of credit in this country, by the absorption of foreign securities in payment, or by foreign nations confining their imports to their dire necessities. At the present moment the last-mentioned is the most probable solution. In that event, agricultural and live-stock products will be less likely to be affected than other commodities—at least until a normal production of grains and live stock is restored abroad.

This country must adjust its business to the basis of a creditor nation. It is no calamity that we are no longer obliged to export several hundred million dollars' worth of commodities to pay interest on our debts; on the contrary, it is a distinct benefit. Our present situation may be difficult to comprehend, because it has arisen almost over night. Under pre-war conditions, several decades would have been necessary to accomplish the change, and it would have been so gradual as to be almost imperceptible; we should have grown into it. This change, in our judgment, is permanent, and those who seek to extend our foreign trade should bear these limitations in mind. In the not distant future we must buy from other nations as much as we sell.

The Kendrick Bill

FOR the information of those of our readers who have not seen the Kendrick Bill, we quote the following explanation which accompanied the favorable report from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry of the United States Senate on February 24, 1919:

The bill is threefold in effect.

First—It provides that every person or corporation engaged in the business of handling, slaughtering, preparing, or marketing live stock or live-stock products in interstate commerce shall operate under a license to be issued by the Secretary of Agriculture upon application.

Second—In order to prohibit the common ownership of meat-packing houses and stock-yards, it is provided that no common carrier shall unload live stock at a stock-yards owned in whole or in part by a licensee engaged in the slaughtering of live stock.

Third—In order to place refrigerator cars at the disposal of the general public under the same terms and conditions that apply to other means of transportation, the bill provides that no common carrier shall, after the expiration of six months from the date of the passage of the bill, employ any privately owned refrigerator cars, except upon the condition that they

may be furnished by the carrier, with the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission, to any person making reasonable request therefor.

Licensees under the bill are forbidden to engage in unfair and discriminatory practices, to conspire with one another, or to combine to prevent competition or to establish monopoly.

The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to make such investigation of the books of all licensees as may be necessary to ascertain all facts relating to the carrying on of the businesses of licensees. Whenever, in his judgment, such investigation indicates a violation of the terms of the proposed act, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to make report thereof to the proper United States attorney, and whenever a licensee has been found guilty of violating any of the prescribed conditions, the Secretary of Agriculture is given the power to suspend his license for a period not to exceed two years, but only after having afforded the licensee reasonable opportunity to be heard by the Secretary of Agriculture in person.

With regard to the section intended to divest the packers of all ownership, direct or indirect, in stock-yards, in order that no unnecessary hardship may thereby be worked upon any licensee, it is provided that the prohibition against the delivery of live stock at any yards owned by a packing-house licensee shall not become effective for a period of two years. Further-

more, the Secretary of Agriculture is given the discretion to extend this period of grace for two additional years, if it should appear necessary to prevent loss.

The Kendrick Bill is a constructive measure. Its provisions are not radical. It simply provides for a safe and sane regulation of the meat-packing industry. Owing to the press of other, more important legislation during the last session, the United States Senate did not act on this report. Senator Kendrick will reintroduce his bill at an early date in the present special session. Copy of the bill as reintroduced will be printed in THE PRODUCER.

Following is an extract from an address delivered by T. W. Tomlinson, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, at the sixth annual convention of the Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association of Oregon, held at Bend, Ore., April 22-23, 1919:

Without attempting to go into detail, I will endeavor to briefly discuss the salient features of the Kendrick Bill, and will comment on some of the objections offered by the packers and others.

First—The Kendrick Bill provides that every person or corporation engaged in the business of handling, slaughtering, preparing, or marketing live stock or live-stock products, in interstate commerce, shall operate under a license to be issued by the Secretary of Agriculture. This means that packers, stock-yard companies, commission men, and traders must be licensed, and that their charges must be reasonable, fair, and non-discriminatory. Under the Food Administration Act, the packers were placed under federal license in November, 1917. They were released from this license a short time ago, because the Food Administration had practically gone out of business. Under the same act, the stock-yards, packer buyers, commission men, and traders were licensed; the provisions of the license to be administered by the Department of Agriculture through its Bureau of Markets. These licenses were not drastic or severe; neither, in that respect, is the Kendrick Bill. They represented nothing more than a proper supervision and regulation by the government of the great packing industry of this country. Opponents of this license feature, and the penalties attached thereto, claim that it might be abused, and that it is not safe to grant such power to any government official. Abuse of the power is, of course, possible, but not likely. Errors of judgment may occur. Courts frequently nod. Juries make mistakes. Your state officials sometimes blunder. Some cities are occasionally maladministered. But no one wants to abandon or cripple our civic, state, or national institutions because, forsooth, someone vested with authority might err. Government means control and regulation. Whenever governments fail to function properly along these lines, they encourage Bolshevism and kindred evils. The best preventive for such a condition is to supervise and regulate. The few wrongs that might flow from the mistaken judgment of those in power are infinitesimal compared with the evils that always occur where large private interests are permitted to administer their property with an eye single to their own selfish purposes. Is not some reasonable regulation better than the unbridled power and strength of monopoly conducted solely for private gain? Really there is no choice. Those who oppose regulation do not sense the danger to this republic that may follow from failure to regulate.

There are some who contend that the government made a failure in its operation of the railroad and telegraph and telephone systems, and that therefore they do not want any more government control. This is a false issue—a straw-man pur-

posely manufactured. To all practical intents, the government might as well have owned the railroad and telegraph and telephone systems; for it did operate them absolutely, whether for good or evil. I will refer to that later on. But right here I want to clearly differentiate between federal operation of the railroads and other utilities, and the kind of regulation provided for in the Kendrick Bill. They are as different as day from night. The regulation of the Kendrick Bill is not unlike the regulation of our national banks. Does anyone want to repeal the National Banking Law and go back to wild-cat methods? I am sure no one does, except for ulterior motives. It is not unlike the provision contained in the Interstate Commerce Law, through which our railroads were successfully regulated for many years. And thus I might refer to many other kinds of federal regulation which have proved of such great benefit to our nation. Please bear in mind that all proper safeguards of judicial review are provided in the Kendrick Bill, through which any licensee can secure all the protection to which he is entitled. Our association does not want the government to operate the stock-yards, packing-plants, or private car lines. The Kendrick Bill does not contain one word that warrants such an assumption. But it does provide for a simple, reasonable supervision or regulation, as you may please to term it, through a license system.

Second—The next provision of the Kendrick Bill seeks to divest the packers of their control of the public stock-yards. It provides that no carrier shall load or unload live stock at any public stock-yards owned in whole or in part by the packers. It grants the packers two years in which to dispose of their interests in stock-yards; and, upon proper showing, that time may be extended to four years. Everyone who has studied this question agrees that the packers should not own and operate the stock-yards. It is argued by those who oppose this measure that stock-yards cannot be operated successfully except by the packers; that, without the benign assistance of these great packers, the stock-yards would rot and decay, and grass grow in the alleys; that, if the packers were divorced from the stock-yards, they would buy their supplies in the country, and thus ruin the yards. If we have reached the point where stock-yards can be operated only through the grace of the packers, it is surely time to call a halt. If the packers can actually make or break a stock-yard, then some drastic regulation is certainly necessary. But all this talk about nobody being able to run stock-yards but the packers is the veriest nonsense. The greatest stock-yard in the world is the Union Stock Yards and Transit Company of Chicago. It has always been an independent yard, and no packer money was invested in it until Armour bought about a one-fifth interest in the holding company a few years ago. Located at the Chicago stock-yards are more independent packing-houses, order buyers, and traders than at all the other markets in this country combined. Another instance of a successful independent stock-yard is the Kansas City yards. It is the second largest live-stock market in the world, and was absolutely independent until Morris & Company gobbled up the control five or six years ago. Packers invest in these stock-yards because they are profitable. Other people will take their holdings for the same reason. Neither Louis Swift nor Ogden Armour personally operates any of the yards they own. They employ men to do that work. Other people can engage just as efficient labor as the big packers.

We want the stock-yards independent, so as to take away from the packers any incentive to favor the market in which they are especially interested. We want them independent, so that there may be a natural, normal development of the live-stock industry and the meat-packing business. With every yard independent, the live-stock industry would expand along sane business lines, and new stock-yards and new packing-houses would be built wherever and whenever needed.

Then, again, our agents, the commission men, should not be under the thumb of the packer-owned stock-yards. At present they are under favors to the packers for pen location, weighing facilities, and, in many cases, financial assistance. We want every semblance of packer control taken from our agents.

Third—The Kendrick Bill provides that the railroads shall furnish sufficient refrigerator cars to all upon equal terms and without any discrimination. It further provides that, after six months from the passage of the act, the railroads shall not handle any refrigerator cars belonging to the big packers, except upon the condition that such cars may be furnished to others upon reasonable request, under such agreement as may be approved by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Personally, I am confident that the Interstate Commerce Commission will never consent to any agreement that will cripple the meat-packing business of this country. I further believe that the packers will probably be allowed to use their own cars as in the past, and that the railroads will build enough additional cars to meet their requirements. So long as the big packers have the privilege of using the railroad refrigerator cars, they ought not to object to others using the packer equipment, under proper agreement so as to protect every interest. There is no danger in this refrigerator-car provision. It is designed to enable the small packer to compete with the big ones. Private ownership and control of refrigerator cars promote monopoly.

Herbert Hoover, in his letter of September 11, 1918, to President Wilson, ably discussed the Federal Trade Commission report, and emphasized the need of some federal regulation of the packers. If you will read the Hoover letter, you will find that he practically approves of the Kendrick Bill.

Hon. David F. Houston, Secretary of Agriculture, has repeatedly, in public addresses, urged the passage of this measure.

Our Market Committee has had many conferences with the packers on the question of this legislation. Most of the packers have expressed a willingness to have their business regulated substantially along the lines of the Kendrick Bill. They recognize that it is necessary, and in keeping with the spirit of the times. There have been exhaustive hearings held in Washington on this meat-packing legislation. Every phase of the question has been thoroughly gone into. The Senate Committee on Agriculture favorably reported the Kendrick Bill on February 24; but, owing to the press of other and more important legislation, nothing was done by the Senate. It will be reintroduced at the special session which is likely to convene early in June, and we are hopeful that it will become law some time this fall.

Indorsements of Kendrick Bill and Market Committee

Indorsement of the principles of the Kendrick Bill, and praise for the work of the Market Committee of the American National Live Stock Association, were features of the conventions of live-stock associations held during the past winter and spring. A realization that, despite the unprecedented difficulties under which it had been laboring, the committee had already achieved results of far-reaching importance, and that the individual support of stockmen and their organizations was needed to enable it to continue and to carry to fruition the task it has set itself, pervaded these gatherings. No less unanimous was the sentiment that the bill framed by Senator Kendrick, of Wyoming, for the regulation of the meat-packing industry offered the best solution of this problem yet

suggested. Strong hope was expressed that the incoming Congress would promptly pass remedial legislation along the lines advocated by the committee and proposed in the bill.

Below is a list of organizations which have taken official action on this matter:

AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION

Meeting at Denver, Colo., January 21-23, 1919

The National Association passed the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION NO. 1

Indorsing the Federal Trade Commission's Report on Meat-Packing Industry and the Kendrick Bill

WHEREAS, The investigation of the packing industry by the Federal Trade Commission was due principally to the efforts of the Market Committee of the American National Live Stock Association; and

WHEREAS, The commission in the summary of its report of July 3, 1918, clearly brought out facts which cannot be successfully controverted, proving the existence of a monopoly, and proposed remedies which are not radical, but which promise a maximum amount of relief without disturbance to the industry; therefore be it

Resolved, By the American National Live Stock Association, in convention assembled at Denver, Colo., January 21-23, 1919, that we express our thanks to the commission for its fearless, convincing, and constructive report, and urge both producers and consumers to unite in its vigorous support for the prompt enactment of appropriate legislation, in line with the proposed Kendrick Bill, S. 5305, to carry into effect the constructive policies and remedies of the character recommended by the commission.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

Indorsing the Work of the Market Committee

WHEREAS, We fully realize the tremendous handicaps under which our Market Committee has worked during the past year, due:

- (1) To the fact that the war greatly complicated the situation and obscured the real principles at issue;
- (2) To the unprecedented and very clever advertising campaign of the packers, misrepresenting the character of the legislation for which the Market Committee is striving;
- (3) To the lack of funds with which to meet this advertising campaign with a counter-offensive, so that both producer and consumer might be correctly informed as to the facts; and

WHEREAS, In spite of these drawbacks, such substantial progress has been made that there is a fair prospect of prompt corrective legislation by Congress; therefore be it

Resolved, By the American National Live Stock Association, at its Twenty-second Annual Convention, January 21-23, 1919, at Denver, Colo., that we heartily indorse the efficient work of the Market Committee during the past year, and its splendid report, and pledge it the closest kind of personal co-operation and adequate financial support; and we urge our members, both by individual subscriptions and through their various state organizations, on a per-capita basis of cattle owned by their members, to provide ample funds, so that its work may be prosecuted most vigorously and efficiently.

CORN BELT MEAT PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION

Meeting at Des Moines, Iowa, January 28-29, 1919.

Appreciation of the work done by the Market Committee in preparing for, and assisting in, "the thoroughgoing and fearless

investigation and report" of the Federal Trade Commission, and an appeal to Congress for the enactment of laws correcting the conditions disclosed by that investigation, were prominent features of the resolutions adopted. The principles of the Kendrick Bill were specifically indorsed, and the hope was expressed that these might be embodied in any future legislation for the regulation of the packing industry.

ARIZONA CATTLE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

Meeting at Phoenix, Ariz., February 11-13, 1919

A resolution was passed expressing deep appreciation of the results accomplished by the Market Committee, in spite of the tremendous handicaps under which it had labored, and pledging the committee co-operation and hearty support in the future. The Kendrick Bill was likewise strongly indorsed, and Arizona's representatives in Congress were earnestly urged to work for its passage.

IDAHO CATTLE AND HORSE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

Meeting at Boise, Ida., February 19-20, 1919

Commending the Federal Trade Commission for its "virile and convincing report on the meat-packing industry," and thanking the American National Live Stock Association for its "persistent and intelligent work" on this vital problem, the Idaho association expressed its full approval of the Kendrick Bill and passed a resolution urging the state's representatives in Congress to work for its passage.

KANSAS LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION

Meeting at Hutchinson, Kan., February 20-22, 1919

Resolutions were adopted recommending the prompt enactment of legislation providing for government supervision and regulation of the packing business, and expressing sincere appreciation of the work of Senator Kendrick in Congress in behalf of the stockmen of the country.

PANHANDLE AND SOUTHWESTERN STOCKMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Meeting at El Paso, Tex., March 4-6, 1919

An appeal for support of the National Association, and commendation of the work of its Market Committee, were two of the points emphasized by Mr. L. C. Brite in his presidential address.

CATTLE RAISERS' ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

Meeting at Dallas, Tex., March 18-20, 1919

The "fine, constructive work of the American National Live Stock Association for the advancement of the live-stock indus-

try" was indorsed, and an assessment levied on the membership for its support during the year 1920. A resolution expressing thanks to the Market Committee and the Federal Trade Commission for its "fearless, convincing, and constructive report," and urging "producers and consumers to unite in vigorous support of the prompt enactment of appropriate legislation, in line with the proposed Kendrick Bill," was unanimously adopted.

MISSOURI LIVE STOCK PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION

Meeting at Kansas City, Mo., March 20-21, 1919

The Kendrick Bill received the indorsement of the association.

NEW MEXICO CATTLE AND HORSE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

Meeting at Albuquerque, N. M., March 25-27, 1919

Voicing its unqualified approval of the aims and policies of the American National Live Stock Association, and pledging a generous subscription for the carrying on of its work, the association indorsed the work of the Market Committee during the past year, and promised it earnest support in its future labors. The Kendrick Bill also received the strong indorsement of the meeting as affording the surest promise of relief from the abuses surrounding the marketing of live stock and the distribution of meat products, and New Mexico's representatives in Congress were requested to work for its passage.

WYOMING STOCK GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

Meeting at Basin, Wyo., April 11-12, 1919

"We heartily indorse the faithful and efficient work of the Market Committee of our American National Live Stock Association during the past three years, and give our hearty approval to such remedial legislation as may be necessary to insure equal opportunities for all who may choose to engage in the packing industry, and to that end indorse legislation along the lines proposed in the Kendrick Bill," was one of the resolutions adopted.

CATTLE AND HORSE RAISERS' ASSOCIATION OF OREGON

Meeting at Bend, Ore., April 22-23, 1919

Expressing belief that the Kendrick Bill, if enacted into law, "would largely remove the important evils surrounding the marketing of live stock and distribution of its products," the association went on record as earnestly urging "both consumers and producers * * * to request their representatives in Congress to work for its passage."

The Committee of Fifteen

By EDWARD L. BURKE

THE Committee of Fifteen is an experiment in co-operation between the producers and some of the other interests with which they have to deal, especially the packers. A short review of the way in which the committee came to be organized, followed by brief comments on its probable usefulness, may be of interest.

On May 15 a committee of fifteen, purporting to represent the producers of live stock in the United States, was created at Chicago, with "full authority to meet with the committees representing the packers and other interests, and to do whatever may seem to it to be necessary to promote the interests of the producers."

This committee is the result of a meeting at Kansas City, on April 12, 1919, of producers representing the leading states in the Corn Belt, and the western and southern live-stock associations; which in turn was the outgrowth of a joint meeting in Chicago, on March 10 and 11, of eighteen producers and twenty-six packers. The responsibility for the Chicago meeting dates back to the annual convention of the Kansas Live Stock Association, February 20-22, at Hutchinson, Kan., where Mr. Thomas E. Wilson, of the packing firm of Wilson & Co., addressed the association and conferred with the executive committee, urging closer co-operation between

the packers and the producers. As a result, it was agreed that a conference between the packers and the Kansas representatives, including such other stockmen as they might invite, should be held in Chicago at some later date, in order to formulate more definite ideas and work out a practical plan of putting them into effect.

In the report of the Chicago meeting of March 10-11 no mention is made of the fact that at least two of the producers present, of whom the writer was one, were not in favor of the joint-committee plan, and protested vigorously against it. The meeting at Kansas City on April 12 was strictly a producers' meeting, and resulted in the abandonment of the joint-committee plan, and a recommendation that a strictly producers' committee of fifteen be created. At that meeting the following report of a special committee was unanimously adopted:

It is the sense of those participating in the conference that it would be to the mutual benefit of the live-stock industry, the packers, and the consumers that steps should be taken to bring about a closer co-operation between the various interests concerned.

Realizing that the live-stock industry is on the threshold of an era of reconstruction, and with the prospect of removal of such control as has been exercised by the Food Administration during the war period, we are impressed with the importance of reaching a better understanding of the problems affecting the whole industry, and of effecting, if possible, more economic methods of production and distribution, to the end that our businesses may be placed on a sounder basis, and in order that the finished product be furnished the consumer at a minimum price compatible with cost of production.

It is recommended that these ends may be promoted through the formation of a committee of live-stock producers which shall meet from time to time, as may be found necessary, and counsel with similar committees representing the packers and other interests. Said producers' committee shall be selected at a national meeting composed of delegates from the several states (said delegates to be selected at state meetings attended by representatives of the various producers' organizations), and the members to represent the range-cattle industry, the cattle-feeding industry, the hog industry, and the sheep industry; the proportion of representation and the number constituting the committee to be decided by the national convention. Said convention shall be planned and called by the Committee of Fifteen which it is now proposed to create.

Pending said national convention and the appointment of said committee, a live-stock producers' committee shall now be formed, as follows:

The committee shall consist of fifteen members, of whom four shall represent the range interests, eight the feeding states, two the hog industry, and one the sheep industry. Those representing the range interests shall be selected, two by the American National Live Stock Association, one by the Cattle Raisers' Association of Texas, and one by the Southern Cattlemen's Association. Those representing the feeding interests shall be selected, one each by the associations of the States of Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, and Indiana, and two by the associations of the states in territory east of Indiana. The two representatives of the hog industry shall be named by joint action of the various national swine associations, and the one representing the sheep industry shall be named by the National Wool Growers' Association. The committee thus created shall have full authority to meet with the committees representing the packers and other interests, and to do whatever may seem to it

to be necessary to promote the interests of the producers, by taking such measures as may tend toward the stabilization of the live-stock industry and for the further purpose of studying one another's problems, of adjusting grievances, and of inaugurating such systems as will be helpful to the producer, the packer, and the consumer. The various associations are requested before May 10 to select their representatives on this Committee of Fifteen, and the committee shall meet at Chicago on May 15, at which time it shall organize, elect its own chairman and secretary, and provide for such subcommittees as it may deem necessary to carry out the purposes for which it is created.

To effect the proposed organization, a committee of six, in addition to himself as chairman, shall be chosen at this time by the chairman of this meeting, to put this plan into effect without delay, to notify the various state producers' associations, and to invite the packers and other interests to co-operate with the producers' committee thus created in promoting the meat industry of the nation.

The reason for substituting a strictly producers' committee for a joint committee, where the producers would be in the minority, are so obvious that it seems unnecessary to repeat them here.

In accordance with the agreement at Kansas City, the producers' delegates met at Chicago on May 15. Thirteen out of the fifteen delegates were present. They were as follows:

E. L. Burke, Omaha, Neb.	J. H. Mercer, Topeka, Kan.
J. G. Brown, Monon, Ind.	Dr. A. W. Nelson, Bunceton, Mo.
W. J. Carmichael, Chicago, Ill.	C. W. Pugsley, Lincoln, Neb.
W. C. Coffey, Champaign, Ill.	H. C. Stuart, Elk Garden, Va.
C. E. Collins, Kit Carson, Colo.	W. W. Turney, El Paso, Tex.
Charles Hunt, Logan, Iowa	H. C. Wallace, Des Moines, Ia.
J. G. Imboden, Decatur, Ill.	

The two absent delegates were J. D. Eldredge, of Gregory, Ark., representing the Southern Cattlemen's Association, and one of the delegates from the states east of Indiana, who will no doubt be selected later. The thirteen members present organized the committee by electing Henry C. Wallace chairman, and W. J. Carmichael secretary. Representatives of the five large packers met with the committee on the 15th, and indicated their desire to co-operate with it in working out problems of mutual interest. It was agreed that the best way to make progress was through the appointment by each interest of small subcommittees, whose duty it should be to consider in detail matters of special interest. Accordingly, both the packers and the producers created the following subcommittees: Executive, Advertising, and Distribution. The producers also named subcommittees on Marketing and Farm Bureaus. Among other things, it will be the duty of the producers' executive committee to consider carefully the field which should be covered by the committee, and recommend general policies for adoption by the full committee. The subcommittees will also make recommendations as to their particular subjects.

A good many people are wondering whether this Committee of Fifteen will justify its existence. Will its field cover anything more than a mere attempt to

adjust unfair trade practices, and promote a better understanding between the producers and the interests with which they come in contact at the markets; or will it broaden its functions and prove of real assistance in helping to work out the big economic problems involved in the meat monopoly? It is too early to answer these questions with any degree of certainty. From the producers' standpoint, there are many inherent difficulties. It goes without saying that the attitude of the packers toward the committee will be one of the principal determining factors. The question of the moral and financial support of the producers is fundamental; co-operation among them is a prerequisite to co-operation with the packers. The amount of time which the producers' committee can and will devote to the problems, and the sort of organization perfected to handle the details, are all important. These are matters which are peculiar to the producers, and the difficulties on their side are much more serious than those on the side of the packers, who are few in number and centralized. The entire lack of some centralized authority through which the committees can function is likely to prove an insuperable bar to their usefulness. There exists today no impartial tribunal to which the producers, and those with whom they may not be able to agree on vital matters, can appeal. Deadlocks are sure to result, unless such an agency is established. Nothing short of federal legislation can create this agency, and without it there can be no satis-

factory and permanent solution of the many problems which are part and parcel of the meat industry. The control of the stock-yards by the packers, with all that goes with that control, the private ownership of the refrigerator cars, and the present system of distribution through branch houses, are the very foundation of monopoly in the meat business.

What sort of legislation offers the best solution? The Kendrick Bill, which was reported favorably by the Committee on Agriculture of the Senate on February 24, 1919, goes far. No one should expect much from co-operating committees until the big, fundamental questions are disposed of in a manner which will be fair to packers, producers, and consumers alike. Any successful attempt by the packers to make use of the Committee of Fifteen to defeat such a permanent solution will wreck the committee and utterly destroy its usefulness. It is the part of wisdom for all concerned to recognize that legislation dealing with the packers is inevitable. Due recognition and proper weight should be given to the fact that the live-stock interests, in backing the Kendrick Bill, are more conservative than the farmers' organizations and the consumers, who are just beginning to understand the subject thoroughly. Delay in passing a bill means continued agitation, unsettled market conditions, and eventually much more radical legislation than that now proposed.

Stock-Feeding and Soil-Building

By W. M. PETERSON

THE past few years have been strenuous ones for the open-range stockman of the Southwest. Continuous drought has been upon him, until it has seemed that the "heavens of brass" of biblical days had been more than equaled. Stock losses have been very heavy, both during the dry summers and the cold winters that followed. It is not to be wondered at that the stock-grower has taken a pessimistic attitude which, to the layman who sees only the high selling price of cattle, seems without justification. He does not realize that this high price may not make up for any loss in numbers which has been sustained, and that, in spite of these apparent high prices, the business of the stockman may have been operated at an actual loss.

But these hard days have had one wholesome effect: they have tended to drive the open-range stockman out of that class and into the one where he has become, at least, a maintenance feeder. Where he used to say, "It is cheaper to take the loss than to provide feed," he has been forced to learn that, unless he makes some provision, he will have nothing either to feed or to sell. The great trouble is that many realized this too late. When

feed was needed, it could not be procured; or, if obtainable at all, it could be bought only at such a price that the owner thought he was facing bankruptcy whichever way he turned. He figured that he might as well lose the cattle as pay out more than they were worth for subsistence. Corn at 3 or 4 cents, and cottonseed meal at \$65, seemed beyond the range of possibility. A feeder near Albuquerque voiced a common feeling when he said, indicating the grain-feeding corral for 350 lambs: "Every time I open that gate it costs me \$9." He was feeding 3-cent corn and \$30 alfalfa, and said he would have to sell his lambs for nearly, or quite, 20 cents to come clear.

Feeding Cottonseed Meal

On a number of ranges, crossed in making an auto trip from Albuquerque to El Paso, the comparatively good condition of the cattle was not in keeping with the poor range. This was wondered at until a closer view showed the trace of cottonseed meal on the muzzles; and inquiry revealed the fact that the cattle looking best had been fed a small quantity of meal from almost the beginning of the bad times. Other stock, showing

that it was being fed, did not look nearly so well, although put on a heavier ration at a later stage in the time of need.

This necessity for feeding brings very forcibly to the mind of the stockman the question of getting sufficient feed at reasonable cost. Is there any way that a maintenance ration can be secured that will be cheaper than cottonseed meal, or something of that nature, and as easily handled? It may not be possible to accomplish exactly this, but it is entirely feasible to produce roughage that will have good feeding value.

There are, of course, ranges where nothing can be raised. About all the owner can do is to lay in a stock of meal and be ready to feed at any time. Indeed, after the practice has been begun, some feeding will be done even when times are good and grass plentiful. But there are many other places where the stockman has concluded that he can and will make permanent preparation for the recurrence of just such times, and for the care of the weaker animals found in any herd; so he has secured, or has developed, as an addition to his range, land on which he can grow maintenance crops of some kind.

But, even when he has the land, he rarely makes as much of his opportunities as he might. He confines himself to the growing of those crops that have always been grown in his locality, and makes little or no effort to find out whether there are other grains or grasses that might be profitably produced. If he is in an alfalfa country, he is very fortunate; for he then has a crop that cannot be excelled for feeding purposes and for soil renovation and building.

Food Value of Legumes

But, even with alfalfa, there are its cousins that might add to his feeding possibilities. The value of wheat, oats, and barley, put up as hay, is well known; but there are comparatively few, in the Southwest, who know what soy beans, cow peas, field peas, or vetch are worth, either sown by themselves and cut as hay, or sown with one of the cereals mentioned above.

A few food values are worth repeating until they are firmly fixed in the minds of stockmen and others who are interested in stock-producing. In a hundred pounds of roughage, the following table shows digestible nutrients that are worth studying:

	Pounds
Corn fodder	58.6
Kaffir fodder	52.9
Milo fodder	44.5
Sorghum	52.1
Barley hay	54.8
Oat hay	46.4
Rye hay	46.5
Alfalfa	51.6
Cow-pea hay	49.0
Field-pea hay	56.6
Soy-bean hay	53.3
Vetch, common	58.0
Vetch, hairy	57.1

Peas and oats, hay	48.8
Peas, oats, and barley, hay	50.1
Vetch and oats, hay	47.1
Vetch and wheat, hay	54.7

There is not a great deal of difference between the food values of the cereal and those of the legume hays. The advantage, however, in most cases is with the legumes. But, with all other things equal, the legume should be grown in preference to the cereal for at least one-fourth of the crops on every piece of soil, because it builds up, while the cereal exhausts. It is true, of course, that legume hay takes plant food from the soil, but at the same time that the top of the plant is taking out the nitrogen the root is putting it back. Cereal roots cannot do this, and, while these add to the humus content of the soil, they do not enrich it nearly so much as do the legumes through their roots. Consider that roots of a stool of wheat occupy only a little more than 300 cubic inches, and that oats and barley are about the same-sized tenants; while a field-pea root takes up 3,000 cubic inches, and a vetch root over 4,000. All legumes are wonderful root-producers, and alfalfa is greatest of all. But the roots of alfalfa differ from those of its relatives, since they do not readily decay after the field has been plowed, while those of all other legumes are part of the soil within six weeks after the plants have finished their work.

In preparing a new soil for alfalfa or for any other crop, or for getting any kind of field into condition for planting or sowing, there is nothing equal to a legume crop grown from inoculated seed. The inoculation starts the plant out on its life career with the bacteria that are necessary to its successful development. There is no delay. The root growth, on which the life of the plant depends, is greatly stimulated; and the roots not only reach out after the food contained in the moisture of the soil, but also begin at once to draw nitrogen from the air and fix it in the soil. Because of this greater root development the legume has a stronger hold on life, and can frequently survive conditions that would be fatal to a cereal.

Not all legumes will grow successfully everywhere; but, as alfalfa has a range of from below sea-level to an altitude of 8,000 feet through most of the temperate and torrid zones, so other legumes will do well under many different climatic conditions. Just because a legume has never been tried is no proof that it will not do well. Field peas may not produce the best results in localities that are too hot, or where irrigation water is applied in such a way as to stand for a length of time in direct contact with the plants. Some varieties of soy beans may not ripen at any considerable altitude, or very far north. But where one legume may not be adapted to a locality, another will take its place. Field peas yield well from 4,500 feet up to 8,500 feet. Soy beans have been successfully grown in Colorado at 4,000 feet, and with not over 15 inches of rainfall.

It will pay every stockman, who is trying to find the cheapest way to feed his stock, to make enough experiment with the different legumes to find the ones best suited to his crop-raising conditions, if he has any. An average year, if the locality is crop-growing at all, will usually furnish the answer; for, with the necessary bacteria supplied by inoculation of the seed, the yields will give the best solution.

Necessity of Feeding

Maintenance feeding of range cattle is becoming an economic necessity. It will also become a moral necessity; for the time is rapidly approaching when the loss of stock through lack of food will be regarded as unpardonable economic waste. Time will come when proper and competent authority will forbid the waste of live stock, just as it has, during the war, prevented the wilful destruction of vegetable products to prevent an overstocked market with lower prices. It is no longer safe

for the owner of a car of potatoes to throw open the car door in the winter time so that the potatoes may freeze and the short supply keep the market up. Thought is beginning to be taken for the poor who might be benefited by the cheaper commodity.

The time will come when inquiry will be made as to the reason for the dead steer on the range, and when death from starvation will be considered just as preventable as death from blackleg, and the stock-owner will be required to take precautions against conditions leading up to such deaths. This supervision may not come in the very near future, but it *will* come; and the wise stockman will begin to prepare for such a contingency, even though it may never touch him personally. The real business man of today is the one who builds, not alone for his own personal success, but also for the sounder establishment of the business in which he is engaged, that it may anticipate and be prepared to meet the needs and requirements of the future.

RETURNED SOLDIERS SPREADING FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE IN ENGLAND

A VIRULENT epidemic of foot-and-mouth disease recently broke out in Littlethorpe, England, on a farm adjoining a repatriation camp. In a few days the disease had spread to seventeen places in the neighborhood. It was thought to have been brought in by soldiers returning from France and Germany.

The same danger confronts the United States, and our government should be on the alert. It is well known that foot-and-mouth disease is so prevalent throughout the continent of Europe that the drastic methods previously employed for controlling or stamping it out have had to be modified.

The same condition exists in Argentina and Brazil, constituting an ever-present menace so long as the United States permits the importation of meat products, hides, and wool from these countries.

In South America live stock which may be slightly infected or seemingly cured is slaughtered for food. Our Department of Agriculture has established regulations governing the importation of animal products from other countries, so as to prevent the entry of meat products unfit for food. Our federal inspection is made at port of entry in this country, in addition to the foreign inspection at points of slaughter. This latter inspection is not under our control, and its integrity has been seriously questioned. No matter how carefully our regulations are enforced, there is still grave danger in importing to this country animal products from parts of the world where the foot-and-mouth disease or other contagious animal diseases exist. It is impossible to detect the germs of foot-and-mouth disease through the inspection at port of entry of animal products or the containers thereof.

All former outbreaks of the foot-and-mouth disease have been traced to foreign origin. The epidemic of 1914 cost the federal government and the infected states millions of dollars.

It was clearly demonstrated in the World War that this country was able, not only to supply all the meat-food products needed for the domestic consumption, but also to furnish an adequate supply for our allies. Our capacity to produce meat-food animals has not been reached. Congress should pass a law absolutely prohibiting the importation of meats, hides, and wool from countries where the foot-and-mouth or other highly infectious diseases exist.

EXPORT TRADE AND EXCHANGE RATES

DEMORALIZED foreign exchange rates and an enormously increased trade total were features of the past month's commerce. Exports of \$715,513,378 during April exceed the previous high monthly record—that of January, 1919—by 15 per cent, and those of April a year ago by 43 per cent. Imports were moderate in April—\$272,955,326. The excess of exports was \$442,558,052—likewise the greatest ever reported. Exports for the first ten months of the fiscal year exceed those of a year ago by 16 per cent, imports are 5 per cent larger, and the total trade has increased by 12.7 per cent. Maintenance of exports and imports for May and June at the April levels would result in a total trade of over \$10,000,000,000 for the full fiscal year, and an excess of exports over imports of over \$4,000,000,000. We believe that 1919 will be the peak year in our export trade. In 1920 the margin of difference between the value of our exports and imports will be materially less. It should be, if trade is to be healthy.

CANADIAN RECIPROCITY TREATY

THE Canadian Reciprocity Act, approved by Congress July 26, 1911, provided for substantial reductions in the duties on various articles of commerce between the United States and Canada, and placed on the free list a large number of commodities—the duties of each country to be uniform.

Under the terms of the proposed treaty, live stock was to be on the free list, and the duties on meat products were to be fixed at approximately 1¼ cents per pound. The Canadian Parliament declined to ratify the treaty, and consequently it never became effective. The Canadians did not then appreciate how greatly they were favored by the proposed act.

On October 3, 1913, by virtue of the Underwood Tariff Bill, live stock and meats were placed on the free list. Since that date Canadian live stock and meats have been imported free into this country. By this act we accorded Canada greater favors than were contemplated in the Reciprocity Treaty. Canadian duties, however, still remain as they were at the time of the negotiations. They are 25 per cent on cattle and sheep, and 1½ cents a pound on hogs; on fresh meat, 3 cents a pound, and on cured meats, 2 cents a pound. Since the war there has been an additional duty imposed, known as the "war tax." The free entry of live stock and meats from Canada into the United States has proved of substantial benefit to Canadian stockmen; it has increased competition, and has resulted in more stable prices in that country.

Stockmen on this side of the line do not enjoy similar advantages in the markets of Canada, on account of the high import duties still retained by the Canadian government. In the Canadian Northwest there are several important live-stock markets and packing centers to which some of the live stock along the border in the United States could be more easily transported than to markets in this country, and it would be of great benefit to such stockmen if live stock and meats could be shipped into Canada on the same terms as Canada can ship them into the United States.

At the present time the tariff is once more the dominating issue in Canadian politics. Farmers are clamoring for immediate acceptance of the Reciprocity Treaty which was rejected in 1911; while the manufacturers in eastern Canada protest against any change during the reconstruction period.

The chief demands of the agricultural and live-stock interests in Canada are:

1. An immediate and substantial all-around reduction of the customs tariff, including the removal of all duties on farm and household machinery, lumber, cement, oil, and a number of other articles which farmers buy.
2. Complete free trade between Great Britain and Canada in five years.
3. The acceptance of the Reciprocity Treaty with the United States, which was rejected by Canada in 1911.

4. That any further reduction of the tariff of the United States toward Canada be met by a similar reduction of the Canadian tariff toward the United States.

If there are any two countries in the world between which there should be absolute free trade, it is the United States and Canada. But it is doubtful whether, during the present abnormal times, much, if any, headway can be made toward that end, either in Canada or here. As in all other countries, the aim of the two governments will be to protect home industries by a system of tariff duties, whether condemned by the Peace Treaty or not. When goods from countries whose currency has depreciated as compared with ours, and where exchange rates will yield a substantial profit and tempt importation, commence to arrive in the United States, in competition with our home-manufactured articles, a howl will go up from our manufacturers that will surpass all previous appeals for special protection.

The tariff will be one of the burning issues in Congress for the next year or two. Stockmen are vitally concerned in it. They are entitled to the same measure of protection as may be accorded to any other class of industries. They ask no favors, but they want a square deal all around.

At the annual convention of the American National Live Stock Association, held in Denver in January, 1919, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Live-stock producers responded to all governmental appeals for increased production of food and wool during the war, and there now seems to be great probability of heavy imports of such products from foreign countries; therefore be it

Resolved, By the American National Live Stock Association, that we ask our congressional delegation to use every means to secure such embargoes and import duties as will permit our own products to meet the imported articles upon an equal basis, as computed by the cost of production.

THE PAST WINTER

LAST winter conditions in the greater part of the ranch country were ideal for cattle and sheep. There were few losses, and the stock entered the spring in good condition. Lambing was done under most favorable conditions, and consequently there was a large crop of lambs. In the Panhandle of Texas and parts of New Mexico there were extremely severe weather conditions during the winter, with lots of snow, heavy losses, and great expense to stockmen for feed. In those sections of the range country there is now much complaint of dry weather and lack of stock water. Throughout most of the western range country the moisture during the winter and spring has been below normal.

AMERICAN DAIRY CATTLE FOR FRANCE

The milch-cow follows the doughboy. Over a hundred selected Holstein-Friesians have been shipped to the devastated regions in France, to help bring back health and happiness to the children. Efforts were made to collect animals free from tuberculosis.

THE STOCKMEN'S EXCHANGE

THE PRODUCER invites the stockmen of the country to take advantage of its columns to present their views on problems of the day as they affect their industry. It solicits correspondence on topics of common concern, such as stock, crop, and weather conditions, doings of state and local organizations, records of transactions of more than individual interest. Make it your medium of exchange for live-stock information between the different sections of the stock-raising region. Address all communications to *THE PRODUCER*, 515 Cooper Building, Denver, Colorado.

RAILROADS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO OWNERS

FORT WORTH, TEX., May 16, 1919.

TO THE PRODUCER:

The railroad situation that will confront the new Congress is most perplexing. Doubtless the less legislation enacted, the better, because of the complexity of the case with regard to operation, finances, and the uncertainty as to the government's future policy respecting matters of regulation.

The most difficult problem is that created by the enormous advance in wages and the very large increase in the number of men to perform the same amount of work. It appears that the extraordinary advances in rates are yet far from sufficient to meet the financial requirements, with the possible exception of a few railroads. An advance in rates does not mean a corresponding increase in gross revenue, because the tendency of advanced rates is to reduce the amount of tonnage; and when that takes place the necessity of more money may lead to still further advances, which will have the same effect. By reduced tonnage I mean the amount of tonnage compared with what otherwise would be carried.

Then there is the cost of supplies and materials, to say nothing of increased taxes.

The Federal Control Bill was found wrong, as every thinking man ought to have known, when it made a guarantee that each railroad company would continue, during the period of the war, to earn as much as it had earned on the average during the preceding three years, regardless of whether or not it was earning an unreasonable amount. This invited inefficiency.

In many instances a great number of changes were made in the operating forces of railroad systems. Economy was practically impossible, and the "don't care" spirit prevailed all around. Practically none of the economies preached by those advocating the bill in its original form were actually carried out. Instead, the most profligate waste was the result—and it is a big undertaking to stop that. It appears that Mr. Hines, as Director General, is endeavoring to stop it, as far as circumstances will permit; but once the high standard of wages is established, together with the reduced hours of work, and with the habit of inefficiency existing in many cases, it will be difficult to correct it. In my opinion, it cannot be accomplished until the railroads are turned back to their private owners, and are

faced with the responsibility of using the utmost endeavor to get upon a basis of economic operation, and then have their personnel use a maximum of effort to succeed. It may be necessary to maintain the high standard of wages. There were, no doubt, many instances where wages ought to have been increased. I am not able or willing to say that under all conditions, and under all circumstances as they now exist, there can presently be a reduction of wages of any great consequence; but the same amount of work can be made to go a great deal farther by the railroads themselves than by the government. Therefore, the sooner they are turned back, the better.

I give it as my opinion that the return of the roads should not await the enactment of regulatory laws that may be necessary in the end for the good of the country and the roads themselves. What will be necessary is for the government to provide such financial aid as may be required to enable the railroad companies to take the properties and operate them efficiently and economically, but in such a way as to secure and give to the public the best service—especially extensive improvements in track and roadway.

After the operation of the roads has been turned back to the companies, the necessity and character of legislation can better be determined. In other words, the law cannot make railroads prosperous unless the men—the personnel of their entire force—earnestly endeavor to bring this about. The worth of a manager or superintendent rests on this fundamental hypothesis, essential to the success of any business.

The first thing that should be done is to restore to the people—the public and the shippers—all their rights before the courts and commissions; to hold the railroads operated by the government under the same obligations as previous to the war; and to do this promptly, so that it can be put into immediate effect for the remaining period of the federal administration. In my opinion, this would go very far toward securing efficient and economical operation, and the best service to the shipper. When all the employees, from general manager down, know that the Railroad Administration will be called upon to respond to the claims of shippers, and to undergo the scrutiny of the commissions and courts, and when the individual knows that he will be called upon by a superior officer, up to the Director General himself, to answer for any failure to perform his full measure of the duties of the carriers, conditions will rapidly change. This will be even more marked when the companies owning the roads are required to take them over and operate them.

It can better be determined later on whether it is necessary or desirable for railroads to consolidate, in cases where consolidation would clearly be beneficial to the public and to the roads themselves. It would be a dangerous experiment, and, in my opinion, should not be compulsory—and not permissible at the expense of destroying competition.

The government has no right to retain these railroads, and the railroad companies have no right to require the government to retain them. They cannot expect to escape all of the

financial burdens of the war, nor can the government guarantee the railroads a profit unless they can make it on reasonable rates. Such a course means ruination to all interests.

They will have to be compensated, in a reasonable way, for the damage done to them. The government will have to give them an opportunity to prosper; but it cannot guarantee them prosperity except as a result of individual initiative, and the efficiency and economical management upon which other business institutions thrive. If receivership is required, they cannot help it.

S. H. COWAN.

WHAT CALIFORNIA CATTLEMEN ARE DOING

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., May 24, 1919.

TO THE PRODUCER:

The California Cattlemen's Association has within the past year made great forward strides in its organization of the cattlemen. Over 15 per cent of the cattlemen of California are members, with a representation of over 400,000 cattle, or approximately 25 per cent of the stock cattle within the state. A campaign is now under way which, it is hoped, will result in the affiliation of at least 60 per cent of the cattlemen.

On April 8 and 9 there was held, at the University Farm at Davis, a semi-annual convention, at which there were present 500 cattlemen from all sections of the state. The Marketing Committee presented a report, which, after reviewing conditions within the state, and pointing out the difficulty occasioned by the glut season which each year makes its appearance when grass cattle enter the market, recommended that extra prime steers be shipped out of the state to the Omaha and Kansas City markets, in this way easing the situation, and tending to stabilize conditions for the cattle which remain. Several trainloads of California cattle will, therefore, shortly make their appearance in the eastern markets; in fact, some consignments have already left.

The highest prices ever paid for registered cattle of the beef breeds on the Pacific coast were secured at the Shorthorn and Hereford sales held in conjunction with the convention. A yearling Shorthorn bull, bred by the University of California, brought \$5,500, and the Shorthorn sale averaged \$659.50 per head, under the compelling influence of Auctioneer Fred Reppert. The Hereford top brought \$2,000, and a large entry of very young Herefords averaged \$475 per head.

Prospects are bright for a live-stock show at San Francisco this fall, which means another link in the chain of Pacific coast shows. If this eventuates, as it assuredly must, an effort will be made to hold the biggest convention of cattlemen ever held in California.

The Northern Coast Section of Zone 2 of the state has been organized under the able direction of Mr. William N. Russ, one of the large producers of that section, who has personally made possible the installation of a local secretary and manager to handle the Humboldt County branch. The success of the new organization is evidenced by the issuance of a snappy little publication called the *Stockmen's News*. In the rich Owens Valley, Mr. Frank Butler has been energetically successful. Imperial and San Diego Counties are paying tribute to the excellent handling of their local campaign by Mr. Harry Jones, of Brawley; while Mr. A. S. Goode has the honor of placing Kern County first on the map of California counties to secure a 60 per cent membership. President McKenzie and Mr. T. H. Ramsay, of the Tehama County organization, are doing splendid work; and Modoc County, under the able leadership of Mr. P. S. Dorris, is making rapid headway toward the goal. In our next issue further individual mention will be made.

California is gaining rapidly in appreciation of quality cattle, as the averages of the sales to which reference has been made will bear witness. There is now before Governor Stephens for signature a bill providing for the use of pure-bred bulls on the open ranges. This bill is fathered by the California association.

The Virden Packing Company will shortly construct a large packing establishment and stock-yards at Sacramento. In the mind of many cattlemen, this is largely experimental, but it may prove a solution of some of the marketing problems confronting the California cattlemen.

A meeting of representatives of all classes of live stock was held in San Francisco April 8, 1919, at which Mr. Louis D. Hall, Chief of the Bureau of Markets, was present. Out of this conference will spring a committee for the express purpose of giving consideration to the problems surrounding the industry, and their amelioration.

The guiding hand of President L. A. Nares has accomplished great things for the California cattleman, and under his direction the organization has been inspired in performing many valuable services for a great industry.

On the whole, the marketing situation in California at this season is firmer than ever before. This condition has largely been brought about by the activities of the California Cattlemen's Association in its earnest efforts toward stabilization of the beef-cattle industry within the state.

D. J. STOLLERY,

Secretary California Cattlemen's Association.

FROM OUR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 23, 1919.

TO THE PRODUCER:

Although it was not among the measures which were dropped into the legislative hopper at the opening of the extra session of Congress, the Kendrick Bill for the regulation of the meat-packing industry will be introduced by Senator John B. Kendrick, of Wyoming, at an early date, and, according to the present outlook, it will command a leading place among the constructive bills to be considered by the present Congress.

Interest in the Kendrick Bill has increased during the recess of Congress, and government officials who have been following the comment in the rural press, as well as the expressed opinions of farm and range organizations, have come to the conclusion that it represents the type of legislation demanded by the country. It is not likely that more radical programs involving government ownership will be presented, and the outlook seems to be that the representatives of all classes which have been pressing for market reform will unite behind the Kendrick Bill.

Senator William S. Kenyon, of Iowa, one of the Republicans who have been most active in formulating a program of constructive legislation, has been quoted as heartily in favor of legislation of the kind introduced by the Wyoming senator. In one of his statements outlining what he hoped to see accomplished at the extra session, he included legislation for the regulation of the meat-packing industry. The Consumers' League, which has been most effective throughout the thickly populated eastern states, is displaying keen interest in the projected measure, and is apparently prepared to conduct an active campaign to arouse public opinion in the East in favor of the bill. Another interesting indication of the attitude which the general public may be expected to take is to be found in the fact that the Woman Voters' League, in convention at St. Louis during the spring, adopted resolutions heartily approving government supervision of this phase of the food industry.

Of course, it goes without saying that various grange organizations, and other bodies representative of the rural popu-

lation of the country, are earnestly demanding legislation, and there seems to be no doubt now that the members of Congress in both the Senate and the House will hear with increasing emphasis from this section of public opinion.

Numerous conferences have been held in Washington among those who are interested in the Kendrick Bill, with a view of obtaining a thorough agreement upon the measure. When introduced, it is understood it will, as before, contain three main features:

First—Establishing a federal licensing system whereby every person or corporation engaged in handling live stock or live-stock products in any way for the market in interstate commerce shall be required to obtain a federal license from the Secretary of Agriculture.

Second—Depriving the big packers of ownership of the stock-yards by prohibiting common carriers to unload live stock at any stock-yard which is owned in whole or in part by a meat-packing concern.

Third—Requiring the railroads to hold all refrigerator cars at the disposal of any shipper, upon reasonable request.

The licensing system is devised, of course, for the purpose of preventing any possibility of future monopoly from combinations and discriminations in the handling of meat products. Senator Kendrick has been most careful in drafting this feature of the bill, to avoid any danger of hampering restrictions. Every effort is being made to simplify the administrative functions that will be imposed upon the federal government. The object is not to place any restraints upon business, but rather to remove those which have inevitably resulted from the concentration of the control of this industry in the hands of a very few men.

FROM SOUTHWESTERN WYOMING

KNIGHT, WYO., May 18, 1919.

TO THE PRODUCER:

On my desk lies a copy of a magazine entitled *American Business*, published by the National Chamber of Commerce. A note by the publisher contains the following statement: "The Chamber of Commerce at last has a voice." After a careful perusal of its one hundred pages, contributed by leaders of all branches of American business thought, it would seem that it has an adequate voice. Six hundred thousand of America's keenest, ablest business men consider it worth while to have an organ devoted to the exposition of their interests. This, in my estimation, is what our Association has always needed—a voice which should insistently and continuously present the views of *the producer*.

It is true that at our annual meeting we "let out" as vigorous a yell as one of our own "cow-punchers" could give; but our voice, like his, soon died away in the canyons of the business world. And the very people that we were most desirous of reaching, whom it was most necessary that we should reach—the plain, every-day producers out on the farms and ranches, who thought they could not spare the time and money to attend these far-away annual meetings—failed, in a large measure, to get the message that the meetings always bring to those who do attend. The Association cannot reach all of these people by word of mouth; but if our members will help extend the subscription list of *THE PRODUCER*, and will contribute, each according to his ability, we shall eventually be able to give to every man according to his needs.

The above is simply an outpouring of the spirit. Our Secretary only asked me to send in a few notes on live-stock conditions:

The past winter was cold, but extremely open. Instead of our customary eighteen to thirty-six inches of snow for three months, autos traveled the county roads nearly all the season. As there was feed enough on the winter range and in the stacks, live stock came through the winter in good shape.

The absence of snow-drifts brings serious problems to the sheepmen. Ordinarily, under the rim of every ridge lies a snow-drift, which gradually melts and furnishes water for the ewes while lambing. There are no drifts this year, which condition restricts the available area very materially.

There is quite an optimistic feeling about the wool market. Although none has been sold yet locally, the expectations are that it will bring better than 50 cents.

The cattlemen have been troubled the past two seasons by a very serious shortage in the calf crop. In extreme cases this has dropped as low as 40 per cent. Numerous reasons are given for the deficiency—such as insufficient grass on the range caused by drouth and overstocking, nature recuperating after the hard winter of 1916-17, etc.; but, whatever the reason, there is no doubt that this section had been hard hit.

Another matter that interests us is that we do not seem to have more than one ground-squirrel this spring for every ten that hibernated last fall. Various theories are advanced for this; the most plausible one being that, owing to the lack of snow, the ground froze deeper than usual. One enthusiast claims that the frost penetrated 7½ feet, but I dare not mention it, for fear that some of my real-estate friends will say I am "knocking," and that the gophers were frozen while hibernating. This is possible, but— Sufficient is it for us to know that the little pests that have been destroying from 10 to 25 per cent of our range grasses, making serious inroads on our grain, and even damaging our irrigated meadows, are materially lessened in number. Especially are we grateful for this intervention because our governor found it in his heart to veto the bill wherein we sought to co-operate with the Biological Department in a systematic destruction of predatory animals and range-destroying rodents.

With the rise of grasses the new season's problems confront us—the shortage of labor coupled with its extremely high cost. Even the "school marms" have formed a union, joined the American Federation of Labor, and demand more money. I suppose Plummer will be the head of this union—the uncertainty of the stability of live-stock values, the— But let us look on the bright side: the Hun is vanquished, the Victory Loan is successfully floated, prohibition has been indorsed by forty-five states, and the American National Live Stock Association is going to publish a magazine that will worthily represent us.

Success to *THE PRODUCER*!

CHAS. A. MYERS.

LAMBING GOOD IN NORTHWEST

ELLENSBURG, WASH., April 30, 1919.

TO THE PRODUCER:

We had a very easy winter on stock in this section, and one of the best lambings in our history. The lambing has been good all over Oregon and Washington. For the last two months we have had no rain, and the grass in our territory is beginning to dry up. During the lambing season we fed our ewes liberal quantities of cottonseed cake and alfalfa hay.

Mutton is scarce; also beef and hogs. Good hogs are now selling at Seattle for 21 cents.

K. O. KOHLER.

THE PRODUCER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

IN THE INTERESTS OF THE

LIVE-STOCK INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES

BY THE

AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION
PUBLISHING COMPANY

Officers and Directors

JOHN B. KENDRICK, President

HENRY A. JASTRO, Vice-President

IKE T. PRYOR

DWIGHT B. HEARD

T. W. TOMLINSON, Managing Editor

LOUIS WARMING, Associate Editor

Subscription: One Dollar a Year :: Advertising Rates on Request

515 COOPER BUILDING, DENVER, COLORADO

Volume I

JUNE, 1919

Number 1

"THE PRODUCER"

AT THE Twenty-second Annual Convention of the American National Live Stock Association, held at Denver in January of this year, the Executive Committee was authorized to start the publication of a paper. Pursuant to this action, the American National Live Stock Publishing Company was incorporated, and the necessary steps were taken to put into effect the object of the resolution.

THE PRODUCER is the result.

With the manner of its origin and the character of its backing, the scope and purpose of the new magazine are given.

It will be the official mouthpiece of the Association, giving voice to the traditions and policies of that organization as crystallized through twenty years of unremitting labor in behalf of the stock-grower.

It will work uncompromisingly for a square deal for the stockman of America, on whose efforts the nation and the world at large are in such great measure dependent for their food, to the end that he may receive the just reward for his services.

It will stand for free and unrestricted competition in the sale of live stock at market points, and in the distribution of live-stock products; and will oppose any combines or agreements tending to limit such free competition.

It will champion the cause of the producer before Congress, so as to prevent the subordination of his legitimate interests to those of any other class.

It will advocate any suggestions or approved methods for economies in the production and marketing of live stock.

It will loyally support every constructive measure, no matter by whom sponsored, designed to aid in the solution of the grave problems now confronting the nation.

It will aim to serve as a clearing-house for the collection and dissemination of the soundest opinion and most authoritative information relative to live-stock conditions everywhere.

It will endeavor to make itself an agency for the co-ordination of all activities tending to advance the interests of food-producers generally.

It will ever strive to cultivate the friendliest relations with the many excellent journals already in the field, regarding itself rather as a collaborator than as a rival.

It will earnestly aspire to make its contents so varied and interesting, and its make-up so attractive, that its monthly arrival will be eagerly looked forward to by every member of the stockman's family.

While having certain definite principles and standards of its own, THE PRODUCER will be conducted on broad-gauge lines. It will extend the hospitality of its columns to divergent views, provided they are based on solid facts and sound reasoning. Suggestions for its own betterment will likewise receive the most careful attention. Only through the blending of the rays from every shade of opinion can we hope to approach the white light of perfection.

May we bespeak for the new magazine your tolerant good-will, helpful counsel, and active support?

THE MEN BEHIND THE PAPER

TO WHOEVER is acquainted with the history of the American National Live Stock Association, and what it has accomplished for the stock-raisers of the country, the men whose names appear at the top of this page as officers and directors of its Publishing Company need no introduction—they have become synonymous with the industry itself. In lending their support and the prestige of their reputations to this undertaking, they but give expression to their confidence, not only in the future of the live-stock business, but in the success of the new instrumentality which is to serve it.

Below we print brief biographical notes of the men who are standing sponsors for THE PRODUCER:

JOHN B. KENDRICK

Sheridan, Wyoming
PRESIDENT

Born in Cherokee County, Texas. As a youth, trailed cattle from Texas to Wyoming. Settled in the latter state in 1885, taking up ranching. Now owner of one of the largest ranches in the West.

State senator, 1910-14; governor of Wyoming, 1915-17; United States senator since 1917. President of the Wyoming Stock Growers' Association, 1909-13; elected president of the American National Live Stock Association at its last annual convention.

Acknowledged one of the foremost live-stock authorities of the country. Author of the Kendrick Bill, now before the Senate, for the licensing and federal control of the packers.

HENRY A. JASTRO

Bakersfield, California
VICE-PRESIDENT

Engaged in the live-stock business since boyhood. Manager of the Victoria and the Boguillas Land and Cattle Companies of New Mexico, and of the Kern County Land, Cattle and Water Company of California, which companies finish approximately 30,000 head of cattle, 25,000 sheep, and 10,000 hogs annually.

One of the organizers of the American National Live Stock Association in 1898; its president for six years—1908-10 and 1912-14.

Recognized as the most prominent and influential live-stock man in the United States, to whose efforts in its behalf the industry owes more, perhaps, than to those of any other individual.

IKE T. PRYOR

San Antonio, Texas
DIRECTOR

Born in Tampa, Fla. At the age of ten, followed the Union army as a newsboy. Moved to Texas in 1870, and for several years trailed herds from Texas to Colorado. Later turned his attention to the ranch business, becoming a stock-raiser on a large scale. During the Cuban War made large shipments of cattle to the army.

President of the Texas Live Stock Association, 1899; of the Cattle Raisers' Association of Texas, 1906; of the National Live Stock Shippers' Protective League, 1915; of the American National Live Stock Association, 1917-19.

As rancher, landowner, and banker, identified with many of the leading concerns of the Lone Star State.

DWIGHT B. HEARD

Phoenix, Arizona
DIRECTOR

Born in Boston. Located in Arizona in 1895. Became actively interested in the breeding and feeding of cattle, securing the investment of large amounts of eastern capital in the development of the Salt River Valley. Was instrumental in bringing about the construction of the Roosevelt Dam.

President and general manager of the *Arizona Republican*; vice-president and general manager of the Bartlett-Heard Land and Cattle Company; chairman of the Arizona State Council of Defense; president of the American National Live Stock Association, 1915-17.

Known throughout the country as one of the builders of the Southwest. Among the chief promoters of the good-roads and conservation movements.

T. W. TOMLINSON

Denver, Colorado
SECRETARY

Born in Logansport, Ind. Became secretary of the American National Live Stock Association in 1905.

BUSINESS OUTLOOK BRIGHTER

BUSINESS conditions are distinctly better. Increased strength and confidence are evident in the large industrial centers. Building of all kinds, which has been stagnating during the war, is slowly showing signs of activity. Sentiment is crystallizing that present basic prices will be likely to continue for some time. There is a firmer and more cheerful feeling in the iron, steel and allied trades. The textile industries are speeding up. The leather trade is buoyant, and hides are higher. Prices in the retail trade reflect the earning and buying power of labor. Crop prospects are good. Unemployed labor is still abundant, but with no tendency to increase.

While the war brought no destruction to our doors, its unique character of a gigantic industrial conflict, interwoven with the military struggle of a world in arms, resulted in a serious dislocation of industrial life in the United States. With nearly four million men under arms, and at least twice that number of men and women engaged in the production of war materials—more than a third of the man-power of the country transferred from peace-time activities—no other result was possible. Readjustment cannot reasonably be expected within a month, or even a year. It is a big problem, and our government should speedily start on some of the peace-time construction and development which were deferred on account of the war.

Many close students of industrial and economic conditions hold the opinion that the present so-called inflation in world values will continue for some time, and that in those countries where the inflation has not been so pronounced values will gradually rise to the world level. After all, inflation is not so great an evil, provided it affects all commodities in about the same ratio. Undoubtedly it will make the world's debts less burdensome.

EXPORTS AND PRICES

DURING the calendar year 1918 there was exported from the United States, in the form of fresh beef and other beef products, the equivalent of approximately 1,450,000 cattle. This was about 8 per cent of our total output of cattle products. Our exports of hog products last year represented 14,400,000 hogs, or about 18 per cent of our domestic production. Our beef exports have been rapidly declining since the first of the year; they will soon be negligible in volume. On the other hand, our exports of hog products have been increasing, owing to the keen demand abroad for fats. The total of these exports for 1919 may exceed the 1918 figures.

In estimating the probable demand for beef and its products, the export factor may as well be eliminated. Our domestic requirements are the maximum that will

be needed; and that may be affected in a year or so by some imports of beef products. Just at present our beef production, compared with former years, fully measures up to the increase in population in this country. If that be so, then the natural inquiry is: Why should prices be higher than before the war? That is easy of answer: Simply because the United States, and most of the rest of the world, are on a new level of prices, materially higher than before the war—and this new level of values is mostly bottomed on increased costs. The old level of values may not return for several decades, if ever. There probably will continue to be violent fluctuations in live-stock markets, but we look for prices soon to settle on a basis very much higher than the average preceding the war, and substantially to maintain that level for an indeterminate period. Liquidation is now on, but in the late summer and fall there will come a period of lighter receipts of cattle.

Packers and many commission men are predicting lower prices for all classes of live stock. In our judgment, any further decline in cattle prices is not warranted by basic conditions, not the least of which is cost of production.

With corn at \$1.50 per bushel, and even more in many sections; hay, during the winter, at from \$12 to \$30 a ton, and in some instances higher; cottonseed-meal cake at \$60 a ton; heavy winter losses in some districts; farm labor higher, and all other incidental ranch costs on a lofty basis, the actual cost of producing range cattle, or finishing them in feed-lots, has tremendously enhanced—almost to double pre-war prices. While these increased costs prevail, consumers may as well become reconciled to paying higher prices for meat; for unless stockmen receive at least cost of production, the tendency will be to restrict their operations. Already the air is burdened with bitter complaint of stockmen about their heavy losses.

MARKET FLUCTUATIONS

AT THE conference of the producers' Committee of Fifteen with the packers at Chicago, on May 16, the latter stoutly contended that it was utterly beyond their power to influence live-stock values; that they depended entirely upon the price which could be secured for the product. Let us concede that they do not possess the power to affect the general trend of prices permanently—and even on that point there is an honest difference of opinion in some quarters, owing to their world operations; but can they prove an alibi regarding the erratic daily mutations? Whenever there are a few more head of stock on the markets than packers can conveniently use, they force a break; and, vice versa, when there are a few less than they need, the market advances. Changes of more than \$1 a hundred pounds in a few days are not infrequent. Has anyone ever detected

similar movements in the retail price? The reports of the Bureau of Markets as to wholesale fresh-meat prices in eastern cities do not reflect any of the sudden changes which the packers inflict on the producers.

PRODUCTION-COST BASIS

ABOUT the first of the year, when prices on some commodities commenced to decline a little, there was a widespread belief that the cost of living would soon return to normal. Those who entertained that hope have been disagreeably surprised. In live stock, there has been a sharp, and seemingly unwarranted, decline in the prices for cattle, sheep, and lambs, and an advance in hog prices. Cattle- and sheep-feeders are now losing money on their operations. On most other commodities, as well as in wages, the high level of war time still prevails. In many places retailers are asking even more than during the war period. There has been no appreciable decrease in retail prices for beef and mutton.

The break in the cattle and sheep market is a serious one. There has never been such wide fluctuation in the prices for live stock at market centers as exists today—and all without any sound reason, except the ability of packers to lower prices when they see fit. Anyone familiar with the prices paid by feeders last fall and winter knows that most of the fed cattle and lambs now being marketed are scoring a heavy financial loss. The packers are fully aware of this, and yet they permit their buyers to take every advantage they can grasp on big runs to depress prices. It will be the old story over again. Feeders will lose heart, and will not tempt fate again next winter, with the usual and inevitable result that there will be a scarcity of beef and mutton during the winter, and another loud clamor for increased production.

In the pamphlet issued by Armour & Co. in January of this year, replete with advice to stockmen, appears the following:

Nevertheless, the production-cost basis is the proper one on which to determine price, and it would not be amiss for the government to take steps for determining within reasonable ranges what live-stock production costs are. Of course, they are different for almost every animal, and an arbitrary grading is hardly possible, but an average might be struck which would afford a basis from which to work in a national movement on the part of producers and packers to guide prices so that they will assure the producer proper returns for his efforts.

This is a business proposition and must be handled as such. Unfortunately it cannot be solved by the stroke of a pen. Yet it should be solved, for it has to do with the prosperity of the agriculturist; and on his prosperity depends the welfare of the nation.

We believe Mr. Armour is exceptionally well informed on the present high production cost of live stock. Would it be amiss to suggest to him that he endeavor to put in practice the doctrine he advocates?

INSPECTION AT MARKETS

THE Wyoming Stock Growers' Association, the Nebraska Stock Growers' Association, and the Western South Dakota Stock Growers' Association, under a joint arrangement, have for years handled the brand inspection on cattle from those states at the Missouri River markets, Chicago, and Denver. As a result of their very efficient work, they have returned to the rightful owners the proceeds of many hundreds of thousands of cattle. This brand inspection was originally intended to cover only the cattle of the members of the three associations. It has, however, been gradually extended, both as a matter of courtesy to non-members, and in the hope that the latter would join their state associations and thus help defray the expense of inspection so as to provide for all the cattle from those states.

During the past two years the cost of this inspection at the various markets has largely increased. It became necessary either to raise more money by an additional assessment, or to discontinue the gratuitous inspection for those outside the associations. After several conferences, the officers of the three associations named have agreed upon an equitable distribution of the expenses of the inspection among their organizations, and have arranged for a substantial improvement in the service. At the same time they have decided not to inspect the cattle of non-members in the future as they have done in the past. This alone will result in a material saving, which can be devoted to a betterment of the service.

We congratulate the state live-stock associations of Wyoming, Nebraska, and South Dakota on the firm and reasonable stand they have taken, and on their plan for a more thorough inspection at market points. As in nearly all live-stock associations, there are too many really interested stockmen who are willing to "let George do it." They have shared in the benefits without incurring any part of the expense. Hereafter such stockmen in Wyoming, Nebraska, and South Dakota who do not belong to their respective state associations will not receive any brand inspection at market. Our advice to them is that they join forthwith.

Every year this market inspection has saved stockmen millions of dollars through the catching of estrays. The associations mentioned have always been unusually diligent in seeing that the proceeds from estrays reach the rightful owners of the stock. Cattlemen of the West can ill afford to be without this protection, and every stockman should be not only willing but anxious to pay his proportionate share.

OVERCHARGES ON FEED BILLS

THE following statement has been issued by the Chicago Live Stock Exchange:

The Chicago Live Stock Exchange has expelled Messrs. Lawrence L. Rappal, Fred J. Rappal, Simon P. Rappal, John H.

Rappal, and Charles F. Shipman from membership in this exchange, and has indefinitely suspended Mr. John E. Quinn from the privileges of the exchange. This action was taken by its board of directors on May 9, and was the direct result of charges made by the prosecuting committee of the exchange, charging that these men, operating as Rappal Brothers & Company and Rappal Brothers & Quinn, had violated Rule VII of the rules of the exchange by excessive overcharges for feed made against their customers. The United States government, through its Bureau of Markets, is alleged to have found, by auditing the firm's books, that during the year 1918 its customers had been overcharged for feed to the extent of \$20,066.12.

THE CHICAGO LIVE STOCK EXCHANGE,

By E. M. HUGHES, *Secretary*.

Under authority conferred on him by the act of Congress approved August 10, 1917, known as the Food Control Act, the President of the United States, on June 26, 1918, placed under federal license the commission men, traders, packer buyers, and stock-yard companies; the administration of the license to be under the Department of Agriculture through its Bureau of Markets. Under the license regulations it was provided:

Sec. 7. A licensee shall not make or exact any unjust, exorbitant, unreasonable, or discriminatory and unfair commission, profit, or charge for buying, selling, receiving, holding, feeding, watering, shipping, or otherwise handling or dealing in live stock in or in connection with stock-yards.

Last fall the commission men, by concerted action through their various exchanges, advanced the commission charges for the sale of live stock from 20 to 50 per cent—averaging about 30 per cent. Upon complaint of the American National Live Stock Association and other live-stock organizations, the Bureau of Markets instituted hearings as to the reasonableness of these advances. Public hearings were held at Chicago, Denver, and Kansas City. Commission men were required to furnish financial statements showing their receipts and expenditures, including charges for feeding, etc. After the conclusion of these hearings, accountants from the Bureau of Markets went over the books of representative commission firms at the various markets, in order to ascertain the character of their earnings and expenditures. Among the interesting data secured was information clearly proving that some commission firms were making large sums of money through excessive feed bills charged against their patrons. It has long been suspected by shippers that commission firms were very lax in their methods of handling feed charges; that hay and grain was charged for which was never fed; that whatever feed was left was also charged to the next user of the pen—a double charge. In other words, commission firms, so as to be on the safe side in their feed accounts, charged up a liberal amount of feed to practically every consignment received.

The fact that the Chicago firm which was expelled garnered a profit of over 20,000 dollars during one year on its feed bills demonstrates how criminally careless some commission firms are in the handling of their feed

accounts. The juggling of these feed accounts was not an accident. Every commission firm in the trade, to a greater or less degree, aimed to secure a profit from this source of revenue. It was well known in commission-house circles that this reprehensible practice existed for years, and that the graft was increasing; and it is truly regrettable that our agents, the commission men, did not take some steps to correct it. Nothing was done until the Bureau of Markets unearthed some scandalous instances of its grave abuse. Probably it would have gone on forever, and been winked at by these live-stock exchanges, had it not been for the expose through the Bureau of Markets. Let us score one for that bureau.

Possibly the expulsion from the live-stock exchanges of some of the firms guilty of unjust and exorbitant methods may make the other commission firms more careful in the handling of their feed accounts. Let us hope so. It will, however, pay all shippers to exercise reasonable care in seeing that the feed charges assessed against them bear some just relation to the actual amount of feed consumed.

The case in point well emphasizes the importance of the regulation of the commission firms by the government. Publicity of the conduct of their business will, in time, cure many of these market evils. When peace is declared, the authority conferred on the President by the Food Control Act ceases, and it will be necessary for Congress to enact some legislation which will enable the Department of Agriculture to exercise supervision over these various agencies connected with the handling of live stock at market centers. The Kendrick Bill provides for such authority.

The Bureau of Markets still has under advisement the reasonableness of the advance in commission charges. It is hoped that a decision will be handed down this spring. The vice of the live-stock commission business is that there are too many people seeking to extract a living from it. The actual necessary work could be performed much better with fewer firms. Most of the time of many of these firms is devoted to securing business and attracting it from their competitors. Is this a legitimate expense which the shipper should pay for?

LOADING AND UNLOADING CHARGES

IN MAY, 1917, the Union Stock Yard and Transit Company of Chicago increased its charge for unloading and loading cars of live stock from 25 and 50 cents to 50 and 75 cents, respectively. In the early history of the Chicago yards the unloading and loading charges were absorbed by the carrier in the rate. When the \$2 terminal charge was imposed, in 1904, the railroads contended that it was to include, among other items, the loading and unloading expense. This particular increase of 25 cents should have been absorbed by the railroads either in the through rate or in the terminal

charge. The legality of this increase, and who should pay it, was presented in a case before the Interstate Commerce Commission. On February 11, 1919, the Commission rendered its decision, of which the following is a syllabus:

Upon the facts of record, *Held*, That—

1. The Union Stock Yard and Transit Company of Chicago is a common carrier engaged in interstate commerce, and subject to the provisions of the Act to Regulate Commerce.
2. The notice of cancellation of its tariff of charges for loading and unloading live stock, in carloads, at the Chicago stock-yards has not been justified.
3. The loading and unloading of live stock, in carloads, at the Chicago stock-yards is a duty of the shipper.
4. The loading and unloading of live stock, in carloads, at the Chicago stock-yards may be assumed by the carriers in those instances in which their convenience is aided and their equipment conserved by so doing.
5. The loading and unloading service performed by the Union Stock Yard and Transit Company is for the benefit of the shipper, but tends also to the convenience of the line-haul carriers.
6. In the absence of a showing of undue prejudice, how much, if any, of the loading and unloading charges at the Chicago stock-yards may properly be absorbed by the line-haul carriers is dependent upon the degree to which their interests are served in any particular instance.
7. The failure to absorb all of the charges for loading and unloading live stock at the Chicago stock-yards, while absorbing all such charges at certain other markets, has not been shown on this record to produce undue prejudice against shippers of live stock at the Chicago stock-yards.
8. The Chicago stock-yards are the terminals for receipt and delivery of live stock of the railroad utilizing them.

According to this decision, the responsibility for loading and unloading live stock rests with the shipper. This was contrary to the long-established custom and to many court decisions. Live-stock interests asked that the case be opened for rehearing. This was granted, and a rehearing was had at Chicago on May 20. The American National Live Stock Association was represented by its attorney, Mr. Cowan.

At present the shipper is paying this 25 cents, and THE PRODUCER hazards the opinion that he will be compelled to continue to pay it. In many of the comments on this proceeding in live-stock papers the fear is expressed that shippers will have to do their own unloading by reason of this decision. That is not a correct inference. The stock-yard companies will perform the unloading and loading as in the past. The crux of this case is: Who will pay this expense?

Railroad rates should include both the initial and terminal expenses; they are as much a part of the total cost as the rail transportation. A rate on live stock from any point to any stock-yards should comprehend the entire service, including the unloading, without any terminal or extra expenses. A multiplicity of charges is both annoying and unnecessary.

LIVE-STOCK MEETINGS

Nebraska Stock Growers' Association, at Gordon, Neb., June 12, 13, and 14.

Conference of representatives of state live-stock organizations at Salt Lake City, Utah, July 21, relative to control or disposition of remaining public domain.

LOSS AND DAMAGE CLAIMS

THE chairman of the Claim Division of the Live Stock Committee of the United States Railroad Administration called a meeting of the representatives of the various live-stock associations and shipping interests to be held in St. Louis on March 18, 1919. At that meeting the railroads submitted a copy of the proposed rules and regulations of the carriers relative to loss and damage claims, which were carefully considered by the shippers and declared to be unsatisfactory. A subcommittee was appointed to draft a tentative set of rules and regulations in lieu of those proposed by the railroads—to be considered at a later meeting.

The next meeting was held in Chicago on May 6-10. This latter conference was enlivened by an acrimonious discussion as to whether live stock shrunk in transit, and how much, and what percentage would represent a fair average shrink for stated periods. Some railroad officials and veterinarians contended that there was no real shrink in the tissue of an animal en route less than five days. This was hotly denied by the many practical shippers present, who insisted that the tissue commences to shrink as soon as the animal is loaded. Various counter-propositions as to the amount of shrink that should be allowed in the settlement of claims were offered, but none met with unanimous approval. Finally the matter was referred to subcommittees, and even they were unable to agree.

BRADSTREET'S WEEKLY FOOD INDEX

FOR the week ending May 22, 1919, the index number, based on the prices per pound of thirty-one articles used for food, is \$5.09, compared with \$4.99 last week, and \$4.28 for the week ending May 24, 1918. This week's number increased 2 per cent over last week, and 19 per cent over the corresponding week last year. It is higher than on December 20, when the index number stood at \$5.07; the gain being four-tenths of 1 per cent.

At present beef and mutton are much lower; therefore other food commodities must be selling on a higher level.

SOME PACKER CONTRADICTIONS

ARMOUR & COMPANY have just published an illustrated pamphlet entitled "The Live-Stock Producer and Armour," bearing date 1919. It aims to review the general live-stock situation, and is filled with advice to stockmen.

We cull the following from that pamphlet:

There is every incentive for farmers and stockmen to grow more live stock. It will be a long time before production equals demand.

For many years to come America will play a large part in feeding the world. France, Belgium, and other war-devastated

countries can quickly catch up on grain production, but it will take a decade or more to build up the shortage of meat animals.

It is estimated that cattle herds over-seas have been depleted by 28,000,000 head; that there has been a loss of 54,000,000 sheep and 32,000,000 hogs—or a total decrease of 114,000,000 meat-producing animals. A hungry world looks to the American stock-grower for its sustenance.

After pondering over the above advice, we suggest that the reader examine the comparative table on page 41 of this issue, showing live stock in the principal countries of the world.

* * *

Swift & Company have issued an interesting year-book, dated January, 1919, containing a table showing the domestic production of beef, pork, and mutton for a series of years, and commenting on this in the following language:

This table shows that meat production has increased 15 per cent since 1909, and 25 per cent since 1914. The population of the United States has increased less than 7 per cent since 1914.

SUBSCRIBED TO "THE PRODUCER"

AT ITS recent convention in Bend, Ore., the Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association of Oregon subscribed for THE PRODUCER for all its members—615 names in all. The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, By the Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association of Oregon, in annual convention assembled at Bend, Ore., April 22 and 23, 1919, that one dollar of the dues assessed each member of this association be used to pay his annual subscription to THE PRODUCER—a monthly magazine published by the American National Live Stock Association Publishing Company.

The Arkansas Valley Stock Feeders' Association, comprising the progressive feeders in the Arkansas Valley in Colorado, has also subscribed to THE PRODUCER for all its members.

At the annual meeting of the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association a resolution was adopted indorsing the publication of this magazine and urging members to subscribe.

We suggest that all other live-stock associations arrange to subscribe for their members, and provide for the payment of the subscription of one dollar in the annual dues collected.

We hope that every stockman now a subscriber to THE PRODUCER will send in other subscriptions. Every wide-awake stockman should be interested in our monthly review.

PLEASE GIVE YOUR STREET NUMBER!

The post-office regulations require that magazines and other second-class mail matter sent to parties in cities where there is carrier delivery should be addressed to the street number or the post-office box number. If, through lack of proper address, your magazine has been sent simply to your town, and you have carrier service, will you not kindly advise THE PRODUCER of your street number or post-office box? This request is made at the suggestion of the Post Office Department, so as to insure safe delivery of all magazines.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

AGRICULTURAL CENSUS DUE JANUARY 1, 1920

IT HAS been decided to take the fourteenth census on farms January 1, 1920, instead of collecting these data as of April 15, as was done ten years ago. The change is due to the fact that farmers generally are busy with their spring work about the middle of April, and to the further fact that April 15 comes in the midst of the breeding season, when live-stock conditions in the North and South are not comparable. The questions will include information on the acreage and production of crops; live-stock classification, both by sex and age; number of cattle sold, purchased, slaughtered, and died on the farms; quantity of dairy products and of wool production.

DESIGNATIONS UNDER STOCK-RAISING HOMESTEAD ACT

REPORTS to THE PRODUCER from Washington show that up to April 30, 1919, a total of 16,781,466 acres had been designated by the Secretary of the Interior under the Stock-Raising Homestead Act, involving 27,139 homestead applications. On the same date there were 24,263 stock-raising homestead applicants awaiting classification of their land by the Geological Survey. The area involved in these pending classifications is estimated at 12,500,000 acres.

Between July 1 and December 1, 1918, 6,574 stock-raising entries, involving 2,264,766 acres, were allowed; and between January 1 and March 31, 1919, 4,639 entries, involving 1,835,793 acres. During the month of May it is estimated that an additional 2,000,000 acres were designated.

LIVE STOCK ON NATIONAL FORESTS

THE total numbers of live stock authorized by the Secretary of Agriculture to graze on the national forests for the years 1913 to 1919, inclusive, are shown in the following tables compiled by the Forest Service:

Year	Cattle and Horses	Swine	Sheep and Goats
1913.....	1,852,999	59,535	8,521,308
1914.....	1,891,119	65,645	8,867,906
1915.....	1,983,775	64,040	8,747,025
1916.....	2,008,675	58,990	8,597,689
1917.....	2,120,145	54,680	8,400,155
1918.....	2,359,402	51,685	8,937,837
1919.....	2,388,975	48,885	8,845,607

The authorizations in 1910 for the State of Colorado alone were 244,138 cattle and horses, and 598,307 sheep and goats, as compared with 415,795 cattle and horses, and 1,150,830 sheep and goats, in 1919. During this period 842,860 acres of land have been eliminated from the national forests of this state.

The Denver (Rocky Mountain) District of the Forest Service ranks first in the six western districts in the number of cattle and horses provided for, and second in the number of sheep and goats; the Ogden (Intermountain) District being



CATTLE GRAZING ON BATTLEMENT NATIONAL FOREST, COLORADO

first in the latter class of stock. The following tabulation shows the total authorizations for each of the six western districts for 1919:

District	Cattle and Horses	Sheep and Goats	No. National Forests
Dist. 1 (Northern District)	226,820	1,235,200	25
Dist. 2 (Rocky Mountain Dist.)	573,630	1,614,700	28
Dist. 3 (Southwestern Dist.)	536,755	924,950	14
Dist. 4 (Intermountain Dist.)	534,000	3,202,400	29
Dist. 5 (California Dist.)	240,475	674,500	19
Dist. 6 (North Pacific Dist.)	220,925	1,180,700	27

LIVE STOCK MOVING TO FOREST RANGES

THE annual movement of live stock to California forest reserves is now on. The movement of cattle and horses to the reserves begins about May 1, and these animals are allowed to remain there until the first to the fifteenth of October. The heavy movement of sheep begins about June 15. There are in California 18,938,909 acres of unpatented land in the reserves under Forest supervision. In addition to this, there are 20,902,752 acres of unapportioned public domain which is a common-user range and for which no charge is made. The forest reserves of California in 1918 carried 214,312 cattle, 8,410 horses, 1,076 swine, 571,572 sheep, and 11,233 goats. The forest ranges this year are reported to be in the best condition they have been in for many years.

DEPLETION OF OUR TIMBER SUPPLY

THAT a serious situation confronts the wood-using industries of the country has long been realized by foresters and manufacturers. Region after region is being denuded of its virgin growth of timber. It is estimated that the next ten years will see the practical exhaustion of the original supplies of yellow pine in the South, and that within the next five to seven years 3,000 manufacturing plants in that section will go out of existence for want of raw material. A similar condition prevails with regard to the white pine of the Lake states; while New England, until recently one of our principal wood-producing sections, is now dependent on outside sources for fully 30 per cent of its lumber needs.



JACK PINE PLANTATION IN NEBRASKA
These Trees Were Planted in 1903

Particularly embarrassed are the paper manufacturers. The question of supplying the paper mills with wood pulp is rapidly becoming acute. New mill development in this country has almost wholly ceased, and American capital is in increasing measure turning to Canada, where large blocks of suitable timber still exist.

It is true that we met the enormous demands made upon our timber resources by the war. But this was accomplished only through an unprecedented concentration of effort, and extreme difficulty was experienced in obtaining adequate supplies of specialized products, like some of the high-grade hardwoods. Had the emergency occurred fifteen years later, in the opinion of Henry S. Graves, Chief of the Forestry Service, who recently addressed the New England Forestry Conference at Boston, on "Private Forestry," we should have had very great difficulty in obtaining the lumber needed even for general construction.

What is the remedy? Obviously the first step must be through stringent laws to conserve what remains of our timber resources. An end must be put to the reckless methods of exploitation prevailing in the past, as well as to the preventable fires that each year destroy such vast tracts of our best timber land. As Dr. Graves points out, the second growth on cut-over or burned-over areas is not only of slow development, but usually of inferior quality. Next, a systematic policy of reforestation must be adopted. Most of the private timber is now cut without any regard whatever for replacement. As 97 per cent of all the wood products now used in the United States come from private forests, the importance of this problem is obvious. In this respect we have much to learn from Europe. Even under the stress of war conditions, the scientific, far-sighted way in which France and England went about thinning out their forests to obtain the necessary supplies for their armies was a revelation to the American Forestry Division. Other reforms advocated by Dr. Graves are the extension of the public-forest area and a broad program of co-operation in forestry methods.

Unless drastic measures are taken, the time is not far distant when this country will have to depend on foreign sources for a large part of its lumber.

RESERVE PASTURES ALLOWED ON NATIONAL FORESTS

THE Forester has recently approved recommendations of the District Forester at Albuquerque, N. M., allowing stockmen on national forests to construct, free of charge, reserve pastures to be used for short periods in the spring for the purpose of caring for poor stock which are in need of extra feed and attention. One hundred acres will be allowed permittees grazing fifty head or less, and not to exceed two additional acres, depending on the character of the forage, for each head of year-long-permitted cattle in excess of fifty.

DEMAND FOR BETTER LIVE STOCK IN SOUTH AMERICA

GREAT impetus was given to the live-stock industry in Brazil by the war. New meat-freezing plants have been constructed, largely with American capital, and American interests are reported to have purchased large tracts of land for stock-raising purposes. Brazil ranks fourth among the countries of the world in number of cattle, and it is held that the possibilities for developing the export trade are exceptionally inviting. At present, however, most of the cattle are low-grade crosses. The general type is large-boned and coarse, and the quality of the meat is poor. In order to meet the needs of foreign countries, it is realized that the stock must be graded up. To that end, the Brazilian government is offering great inducements for the importation of pure-bred stock, and pedigreed cattle are already being brought in.

Bureau of Markets to Send Investigator

A similar situation obtains in other South American countries. The need for the introduction of better breeds is everywhere being felt, and the success of the American stockmen already in the field suggests the United States as the most available market for the purchase of this stock. In order to make a thorough examination of these possibilities, the Foreign Division of the Bureau of Markets has recently perfected plans for sending a representative to South America. Mr. David Harrell, of Austin, Tex., has been appointed commissioner to make these investigations. He will sail for Buenos Aires on June 14, and will be accompanied by Mr. H. P. Morgan, of the Bureau of Markets.

DISPOSAL OF ARMY'S SURPLUS MEATS

THE close of the war found the army with vast quantities of meat supplies on hand for which it had no further need. The surplus stocks comprise close to 260 million pounds of canned meats, divided as follows: roast beef, 115,943,500 pounds; corned beef, 120,600,000 pounds; corned-beef hash, 20,820,000 pounds; besides, there are 47,219,620 pounds of salt bacon. These products represent the combined output of the packing-houses for five months during the war, when the plants were kept in continuous operation to meet the demands of the army.

Recently a meeting was held at Washington between representatives of the packers and government officials to discuss the best way of disposing of this surplus. It was pointed out that it is not suitable for the domestic trade—canned beef is not very popular in this country. Furthermore, it is not put up in commercial packages, and would have to be repacked. It was advised by the packing interests that an attempt be made to sell it abroad, and that negotiations be instituted with the allied relief agencies to utilize it in feeding the famine-stricken countries.

Should it prove impossible to dispose of this meat for export, then the Director of Sales was to control its sale, fixing prices and distribution, with the packers acting as his agents.

While no agreement has been reached, the government seems to favor the plan proposed.

THE PRODUCER suggests that this meat be turned over to the Red Cross for free distribution among the hungry in Europe.

* * *

Joint Resolution in Congress

In the House of Representatives, May 19, 1919, Mr. John F. Fitzgerald, of Massachusetts, introduced the following joint resolution (H. J. Res. 6), which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture and ordered to be printed:

"WHEREAS, The cost of food has risen to such prices as to seriously endanger the physical welfare of the people of the United States; and

"WHEREAS, These prices are mounting up almost daily, notwithstanding the fact that the warehouses of the country are bulging with food supplies to an extent never known before, and the country is about to begin the harvest of the largest wheat crop the United States has ever known; and

"WHEREAS, Conditions such as these are subversive of good government and ideals of human happiness; therefore be it

"Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, that the Food Administration release at once for public sale all food-stuffs not urgently required for governmental purposes, and also cause to be made immediately a survey of food supplies held in storage in various parts of the United States, to the end that an immediate sale may be made of these food products not required for public protection."

OAK LEAVES UNSAFE DIET FOR CATTLE

BELIEF among many stockmen in the grazing regions of the West that cattle were poisoned by oak leaves caused specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture to undertake experiments in 1915, the results of which have just been published in Bulletin 767, "Oak-Leaf Poisoning of Domestic Animals." It has been found that the continuous feeding of oak leaves produces sickness of cattle, which frequently proves fatal. In order to cause sickness, however, oak leaves must make up a large percentage of the ration. If eaten with other food, the animals are not injured. It was found experimentally that as small a quantity of alfalfa hay as three pounds daily, fed in connection with oak leaves, prevented poisoning. Most poisoning cases occur in the spring, because at that time there is a scarcity of other forage on the range.

SOME RESULTS OF FEDERAL LIVE-STOCK MARKET SUPERVISION

MR. LOUIS D. HALL, in charge of stock-yards supervision, United States Bureau of Markets, in an address before the annual convention of the National Live Stock Exchange, at Pittsburg, Pa., on May 16, 1919, discussed the licensing of commission men and traders, and referred to some of the improvements in market service since the Bureau of Markets took hold of the administration of these licenses. He said in part:

Like all other large and successful enterprises, the live-stock markets and meat-packing centers have created problems of supervision or regulation because of their extensive ramifications and their direct influence upon the affairs of every producer and user of meats and of the long list of animal by-products. The concentration of ownership and control of most of the large stock-yards, and of the packing concerns which handle a very large percentage of the animals sold in these yards, naturally has attracted such attention as to arouse general interest in the conduct of these concerns, and a demand for authentic information as to the fairness of their profits and practices. In other words, the industry has reached the same stage of development that characterized the banking business about twenty-five years ago, when the protection of the public required the establishment of federal and state supervision; or, to use another illustration, the evolution of railroad development to the point where fairness both to the public and the railroads necessitated the establishment of the Interstate Commerce Commission. This, I believe, is a fair statement of the situation as it pertains to the live-stock and meat industry today, and it seems to be agreed generally, by all interests concerned, that a sane, constructive federal supervision is as essential to the future welfare of the various distributing interests themselves as it is to the producers of live stock and the meat-consuming public. In no other way can confidence be restored among farmers and stockmen, so that meat production, which has been practically at a standstill for twenty-five years, may again be resumed on a scale proportionate to population, which constantly has been increasing while production has been marking time.

Among the hundreds of complaints and adjustments which have been handled by the local supervisors and by the Washington office, it will be impossible in a limited time to mention more than a few representative instances as an indication of the results of this service. At a number of stock-yards additional facilities and improved service have been installed through the activities of our supervisors. New scales, pens, and sorting-alleys have been built; a better quality of feed has been furnished; dirty pens have been cleaned; additional yard-men have been employed; arrangements for loading, unloading, and moving stock through the yards have been simplified and expedited; a closer check on weights of feed has been made; faster service on terminal railroads has been furnished; and numerous other features of stock-yard service have been improved. At one important market the time required to move stock trains from the end of the terminal to the unloading chutes, which formerly was from four to twenty-four hours, has been reduced to a period of from forty-five minutes to two hours. The officials of the Live Stock Exchange at that market stated that they have tried for twenty-five years to secure relief from terminal delays, without result; whereas our local supervisor was able to remedy the situation within a few weeks after his arrival. At another market the baskets formerly used for measuring corn were discarded and a new set of standard bushel baskets put in their place. Feed charges have been reduced in some cases on suggestion of the local market supervisors.

* * *

In speaking of the results of market supervision as pertaining directly to the commission business, I am glad to say that the bureau has had the hearty co-operation of the local and national live-stock exchanges, and that the exchanges are to a considerable extent responsible for much of the progress that has been made during the past year in connection with the enforcement of both the letter and the spirit of our regulations. In most of the few instances of violations on the part of commission men that have been apprehended and dealt with, the facts have been obtained and acted upon, either through the co-operation of the administrative officials at Washington with those of the

National Exchange, or between the local market supervisors and officials of the local exchange. Frequently the local supervisor has been invited to attend special meetings of the local exchanges at which market practices or special cases have been under consideration. Upon the disclosure by the bureau's supervisors or auditors of malpractices—such as excessive feed charges, false weights, collusion with speculators, or fraudulent returns to shippers—the exchanges have been quick to take voluntary action for the protection of their markets—quicker, I regret to say, than the bureau itself has been prepared as yet to take action in such cases. Some of the exchanges have passed new rules in order to harmonize their methods with the purposes of our regulations—as, for example, forbidding the use of crippled-hog buyers as their yard-men, and giving tips to yard employees for special privileges in yarding, driving, and loading. In the assignments of pens to commission men and traders at some of the markets, the supervisors have been able to assist materially in preventing partiality and bringing about a harmonious distribution of facilities. * * *

Finally, and perhaps most important of all, confidence has been increased in the minds of the producers and shippers of live stock to a degree which has been lacking for many years; and there can be no question that the gradual tendency among farmers and stockmen to increase again their stock-growing and feeding operations is due in no small part to the now universal knowledge on their part that Uncle Sam is supervising the markets. In my judgment, the safest insurance policy for the future development of our live-stock industry to its proper and normal proportions is the enactment of legislation along the lines of the pending Kendrick Bill, providing for the permanent oversight of the packing industry and stock-yards, so that our great centralized markets, as well as our banks and railroads, may have such a degree both of inspection and protection as has made our banking system the best in the world.

THE PRODUCER expresses its appreciation to the live-stock commission merchants, and to the local and national live-stock exchanges, for their co-operation with the Bureau of Markets in trying to make this federal supervision effective and beneficial.

CHANGE IN REGULATIONS FOR FEEDING LIVE STOCK IN TRANSIT

MODIFICATIONS in the plan of feeding live stock in transit under the provisions of the twenty-eight-hour law are announced by the Department of Agriculture. This law, which is aimed at providing proper and humane care of animals in interstate traffic, receives its name from the general requirement that carriers must not transport live stock for a period longer than twenty-eight consecutive hours without unloading for feeding, water, and rest.

Under its authority in administering the twenty-eight-hour law, enacted in 1906, the Department of Agriculture has from time to time defined its interpretation of proper feeding and watering, and its evidence in these matters is used by the Department of Justice as a basis for making prosecution.

Proper feeding and handling of live stock in transit is a matter of concern to every stockman. To bring the new schedule of rations to the attention of all persons interested, the department requests the widest possible dissemination and free discussion of the new plan. It is of further interest that the rations in the schedule are largely the suggestions of practical stockmen.

At the time of the recent annual convention of the American National Live Stock Association, at Denver, Colo., department officials conferred on this matter with representatives of the American National Live Stock Association, National Live Stock Shippers' Protective League, National Live Stock Exchange, Packers' Traffic Committee, and the Railroad Administration.

The recommendations of the conference committee were approved by the Secretary of Agriculture and are incorporated

in the following letter, setting forth the department's views as to the minimum requirements of the law:

"In order to avoid the difficulties experienced by transportation companies, shippers, and others in computing the amounts of feed which should be given to animals in the course of interstate transportation, the Bureau of Animal Industry, in connection with the enforcement of the twenty-eight-hour law (34 Stat., 607), has given further consideration to the feeding, watering, and resting of cattle, sheep, swine, and other animals, and has determined that the use of a carload as a unit basis, rather than the hundred-weight of animal, is a more satisfactory method for arriving at the amount of feed which should be given to animals.

"As a result, the conclusion has been reached that the handling of animals in accordance with the suggestion outlined below will meet the view of the Department of Agriculture as to the minimum requirements of the law:

Feed Requirements

"Horses and mules: Not less than 200 pounds of hay, or its equivalent, per car.

"Cattle: Not less than 200 pounds of hay, or its equivalent, per car.

"Sheep or goats: Not less than 100 pounds of hay, or its equivalent, per deck.

"Swine: Not less than 2 bushels of shelled corn, or its equivalent in ear corn or other grain, per single-deck car of not more than 17,000 pounds weight; not less than 2½ bushels of shelled corn, or its equivalent in ear corn or other grain, per double-deck car of not more than 21,000 pounds weight.

"Carload lots of hogs in excess of these weights should be fed an additional amount in the same proportion.

"Animals shipped in lots less than a carload should be fed a pro-rata amount based on the above figures.

"Calves too young to eat hay or grain and shipped alone should be given a sufficient amount of some suitable feed, such as milk or raw eggs.

"The rations above indicated are to be given each time the animals are fed to comply with the provisions of the law.

Unloading

"The only practical methods for railroads to transport animals, other than hogs, without unloading during each period prescribed by the statute for rest, water, and feeding, are in 'palace' or similar stock cars and with emigrant outfits. There are cases in which exceptional facilities complying with the law make unloading unnecessary; for instance, specially equipped cars conveying show animals and blooded stock. In such cases care should be taken to observe the law. In all cases, if animals are not unloaded, sufficient space to permit all the animals to lie down at the same time in the cars must be provided.

"Hogs may be fed, watered, and rested without unloading, provided (a) the cars are loaded so as to allow all the animals to have sufficient space to lie down at the same time; (b) the trains are stopped for sufficient time to allow the watering troughs to be prepared and to allow every hog time to drink his fill; and (c) care is exercised to distribute properly through each car deck sufficient shelled corn, or its equivalent in ear corn or other grain, for each hog.

Unloading Pens

"All pens into which animals are unloaded must contain adequate facilities for feeding and watering, and suitable space in which the animals can lie down comfortably for resting. Covered pens should be provided for unloading animals in severe weather.

"This letter to supersede the letter of the department dated May 31, 1913, on this subject."

Though not having the direct force of law, the foregoing official statement is the basis on which alleged violations of the twenty-eight-hour law will be presented by the Department of Agriculture to the Department of Justice.

Proper feeding and care of live stock in transit, it is pointed out, not only protects the animals, but also benefits the public, and especially the grower, because the stock reaches the market in the best possible condition.

NEW RULES TO COVER SHIPMENTS OF LIVE STOCK

UNITED STATES Railroad Administration, Division of Traffic, Freight Rate Authority No. 7818, issued May 10, 1919, provides for certain changes in the present rules and regulations for the transportation of live stock—effective date to be announced later. The circular is voluminous, and we summarize the substantial provisions:

A charge of \$2.50 per single-deck and \$4 per double-deck car is allowed for cleaning and disinfecting.

A charge of \$1 per car for unloading, feeding, watering, and reloading live stock at feeding-points is authorized. When shipments are fed and watered without unloading, the charge is 50 cents per car. These charges are in addition to the feed expense.

Amount of feed prescribed at railroad feeding-yards, when live stock is in transit more than 36 hours, per car: horses, mules, and cattle, 200 pounds of hay; sheep or goats, 100 pounds of hay per deck; hogs, 2 bushels of grain per single-deck and 2½ bushels per double-deck. When more than this amount is fed, an additional charge of 25 cents will be made on each 100 pounds of hay or bushel of grain. On live stock stopped at private yards the actual expense will be charged.

One attendant will be allowed with 1 car, but no return transportation; 1 attendant and return transportation with 2 to 10 cars; 2 attendants with 11 to 20 cars; 3 attendants with 21 to 30 cars; 4 attendants with 31 to 40 cars; and 5 attendants with 41 to 50 cars.

Carload shipments of other than ordinary live stock will not be accepted without an attendant.

Two single-deck cars will be furnished in lieu of one double-deck car at primary markets where carrier is unable to furnish double-deck cars.

The forwarding of live stock from directly intermediate markets at through rate is authorized, but stipulation is made that there must be no change of ownership or substitution of stock.

Stoppage in transit to complete loading is canceled.

Carriers are permitted to absorb 50 cents per single-deck and 75 cents per double-deck car for the receipt and delivery of live stock at public stock-yards.

Shippers are permitted to bed their own cars. When this service is performed by the carrier, the charge shall be \$1 per single-deck and \$1.50 per double-deck car. When live stock is transferred en route, carrier will furnish bedding.

Use of hoof weights at stock-yards is authorized where proper facilities are provided, with fill allowance; subject, however, to the carload minimum weights. In other cases track scale weights, loaded and empty, will obtain. Hoof weights can be used on live stock shipped from market to country points, with deduction for fill.

Minimum carload weights, on cattle, in single-deck cars 36 ft. 7 in. and under, 22,000 pounds; between 36 ft. 7 in. and 40 ft., 24,000 pounds; over 40 ft., 26,000 pounds; on sheep, double-deck, 22,000 pounds, 23,000 pounds, and 24,000 pounds, respectively.

Full instructions are given regarding handling of mixed carloads of live stock.

Orders for cars must be made in writing and within a reasonable time. If cars are ordered by telephone, the order must be confirmed.

Shipping instructions must be in writing.

Cattle or sheep that have been dipped will not be accepted until dry.

Feed placed in cars by shippers for feeding live stock in transit will be transported free.

It is improbable that these new rules and regulations will go into effect until the latter part of July at the earliest. The intent of the Live Stock Committee of the United States Railroad Administration was to unify the various regulations prevailing throughout the entire country. Various sections had entirely different rules. Some of the changes will provoke considerable criticism, and no doubt the whole matter will be passed on by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

A BILL FOR REGULATION OF GRAZING ON PUBLIC LAND

PROFESSOR C. A. NORCROSS, of the University of Nevada, has prepared a tentative bill relative to the control of grazing on the so-called public domain, and has forwarded it to Hon. Charles B. Henderson, Senator from Nevada, with a view of having it introduced in Congress. The bill is as follows:

"A BILL

"AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL GRAZING COMMONS IN THE PUBLIC-LAND STATES

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled: That the President is authorized to designate as a 'National Grazing Common,' to be known by the name of the respective state, the unreserved, unappropriated lands of the United States situate in any public-land state as in his judgment are valuable for grazing live stock, and thereafter such common shall be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture, in connection with the national forests, under such rules and regulations as hereinafter provided, and any violation thereof shall be punished as provided in section 56 of the Federal Penal Code of March 4, 1909: *Provided*, That nothing in this act shall interfere with the selection and appropriation of any such lands under the public-land or mining laws of the United States; and *provided further*, That, before such common shall be designated in any state, the governor thereof shall first have duly appointed and commissioned a State Grazing Common Board, consisting of three members—one representing the cattle-grazing industry, one the sheep-grazing industry, and one the interests of the state at large; and such board shall have entered into agreement with the Forest Service, approved by the governor and the Secretary of Agriculture, covering the administration, rules, and regulations governing such common. The President is authorized to withdraw from public entry lands needed for the proper utilization, improvement, or administration of any such common, not exceeding 640 acres in any one township. Any appropriation available for the administration, protection, and improvement of the national forests shall be available for the administration, protection, and improvement of such commons until such time as self-sustaining. The proceeds of all grazing permits on each such common shall be separately accounted for, and shall be available exclusively for the administration, improvement, and protection of said common; and any proceeds in excess of such expenditures shall annually be paid into the treasury of such state for the use and benefit of agricultural reclamation and settlement, and for co-operative agricultural extension work, as the state legislature may apportion the same."

Accompanying the foregoing bill, which has been sent to us by Professor Norcross, is the following explanation of its provisions:

"The problem of some satisfactory policy for administering the public grazing lands in the western states, to prevent over-grazing, permit revegetation, and so ultimately increase their carrying capacities, has been under consideration by the American National Live Stock Association and the live-stock associations of the various states for a number of years. No plan has yet been agreed to, however, under which the various interests and view-points, national and local, may seemingly be reconciled.

"The inclosed proposed bill is submitted for consideration, in the belief that it affords a procedure for reconciling such divergent interests and view-points. While the measure is largely self-explanatory, the following brief comment on its salient features may be of interest:

"1. If enacted by Congress, the bill would not of itself initiate or effect any change from existing conditions with respect to the public grazing lands.

"2. It would provide, however, a method whereby any public-land state may initiate the necessary procedure to have the public grazing lands within such state designated as a National Grazing Common, to be known by the name of the state; and, while administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in connection with the Forest Service, yet under rules and regulations satisfactory to, and accepted by, the state, antecedent to the establishment of the common—otherwise no common is designated in such state.

"3. On the State Grazing Common Board, which, with the governor, represents the state in the antecedent agreement covering the administration, rules, and regulations governing such common, the state's live-stock grazing industry is represented by two of the three members of the board. Thus the live-stock industry is safeguarded against destructive or radical changes by such majority membership; while, on the other hand, the state's general interests are safeguarded by the presence of the one member on the board not interested in the live-stock grazing industry, and, finally, by the prerequisite of the governor's approval of the agreement before such common may be established.

"4. The plan proposed permits each state to work out with the Forest Service the problems, special to that state, involved in the administration of its public grazing lands. This seems to be the only possible satisfactory method by which the extreme diversity of range conditions in the various western states can be handled, since they cannot seemingly be reconciled to any single or uniform system of regulations.

"5. The bill authorizes the withdrawal from public entry of lands required for the proper utilization, improvement, or administration of each common, not exceeding 640 acres in any one township. This permits of protecting lands required for watering places, rangers' homes, drift-fences, etc., from entry by settlers.

"6. The proceeds of grazing permits in each such common is to be separately accounted for, expended exclusively therein, and any surplus paid into the state treasury. This is an important provision necessary to the satisfactory conduct of such state-unit system of administration. The state is entitled to such surplus as an equity in lieu of land taxes."

This bill will be considered at the conference at Salt Lake City on July 21, 1919, elsewhere referred to in this magazine.

SENATOR PHIPPS INTRODUCES BILL FOR TRANSFER OF PUBLIC LANDS TO STATE

TRANSFER by the federal government to Colorado of all unreserved non-mineral public lands within the state is proposed in a bill introduced June 2 by Senator Phipps, of Colorado. Sale or lease of the transferred lands to aid road-building, study of forestry and horticulture, and vocational education would be provided, and the proceeds divided as follows: one-fourth for road construction, one-fourth to the State University at Boulder for forestry study, one-fourth to the State Agricultural College at Fort Collins for horticultural study, and one-fourth to the State Normal School at Greeley for vocational education.

CANCELLATION OF SHIP CONTRACTS TO PROCEED SLOWLY

THE United States Shipping Board has announced that it is not the intention of the Emergency Fleet Corporation to indulge in any ruthless policy of cancellation of ship contracts. Cancellation is proceeding in order to readjust the prices to a peace basis, and new contracts are being made to take the place of cancellations. A further announcement says that the board has asked the President to permit yards to accept orders for construction on foreign account.

CABLE LINES RETURNED

By direction of the President, cable lines taken over were returned to private control on May 2.

SIXTY-SIXTH CONGRESS CONVENES

THE Sixty-sixth Congress, elected November, 1918, convened in extraordinary session May 19. Among the matters requiring immediate attention are the many appropriation bills for the current fiscal year which failed of passage at the last Congress. Other important topics which will have early consideration are legislation affecting the return of the railroad, telegraph, and telephone lines to private control, and certain modifications of the present Revenue Act.

A strong movement is on foot to repeal the so-called "luxury tax," which has been found to contain a number of ambiguities and to be extremely difficult of application.

The war caused a substantial reduction in indirect taxation. With the approach of peace and of national prohibition, putting an end to the excess-profits and war taxes, as well as to familiar forms of internal revenue taxation, the chief sources of revenue become personal and corporation income taxes. Unless the United States is to become permanently committed to an excessively burdensome rate of direct taxation, sales, consumption, and tariff taxes must receive prompt attention at the hands of Congress.

Another important subject is immigration. The four-year exclusion bill, proposed by a committee of the last House, did not come to a vote and is likely to be brought up again. Impetus was given to this movement by the late bomb plots, attributed to foreign anarchistic elements. Until peace is signed we shall not know what policies will be pursued by the various European governments to restrict emigration, or whether we ourselves shall be subjected to an inflow or outflow of population. The period of reconstruction will naturally be one of uncertainty as to the labor market. The demobilization of our armies will by no means meet our natural demand for labor, which has been accentuated by four years' loss of immigration. Under these conditions, effective legislation becomes a difficult problem.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE LINES RETURNED

POSTMASTER-GENERAL BURLESON on June 5 issued an order returning all telegraph and telephone systems to private ownership; this order to take effect immediately. On the eve of the threatened strike by the telegraph operators, this action on the part of the administration is significant.

LIMITATIONS ON EXPORTS TO NEUTRALS SUSPENDED

ALL quantitative restrictions on exports from the allied countries, including the United States, to Holland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Switzerland have been removed, except with respect to finished munitions of war, according to announcement made by the War Trade Board.

LASSOINGS

The man who has tried to crawl between two of the strands of a barbed-wire fence can understand Italy's feeling toward the fourteen points.—*Little Rock Arkansas Gazette*.

The Germans think that they are winning at the Paris Peace Conference. That's what they thought at Verdun and Argonne and the Meuse for a while.—*Indianapolis News*.

If the first meeting of the League is held in Washington, the baggage of visiting diplomats will splash when handled.—*Greenville (S. C.) Piedmont*.

Report says the Hungarian Reds will abolish the telephone service because it is bourgeois. It's worse than that over here.—*Brooklyn Eagle*.

THE MARKETS

CURRENT LIVE-STOCK MARKET CONDITIONS

CHICAGO, ILL., June 3, 1919.

MAY brought vicissitude to cattle and sheep-feeders at the live-stock markets of the United States. Cattle declined anywhere from \$2 to \$3.50 per cwt.; sheep and lambs, from \$2.50 to \$3. Toward the end of the month it became evident that hog values could not be maintained on a basis \$5 to \$6 higher than good cattle and the general run of live muttons. It must be remembered that the collapse in cattle and sheep occurred while by-products, pelts, and hides were steadily advancing. The hog yields little by-product and carries its epidermis with its meat. Hides were contracted by the end of May at 35 cents, and sheep-buyers were actually credited with \$5 for pelts; which means that they were realizing more money, as the wool department is not charged up with full value.

Heavy cattle experienced most of May vicissitude. The grade selling at \$20 to \$20.35 early in the year dropped to \$16.75 to \$17; plain, heavy cattle, that got by when packers were filling government orders at \$19 to \$19.50, being set back to \$15.75 to \$16. Late in May the fattest steers on the Chicago market sold at \$15.75. They were plain, but made No. 1 beef. Light and handy-weight stuff fared best, yearlings returning to popularity. Most of the short-fed cattle weighing 900 to 1,150 pounds were worth \$13.50 to \$15.25 at the beginning of June. Between Chicago and Missouri River markets little difference could be detected; in fact, no shipping margin between these points has existed this year for any class of live stock.

A soaring feeder market broke in sympathy with fat cattle. Early in May \$15 to \$16.50 took fleshy feeders at Kansas City, Omaha, and Chicago; but when finishers saw the trend of fat-cattle events, reason asserted itself. Many of these \$15 to \$16 cattle are now in Corn Belt feed-lots, and how they will fare in the finality of the transaction is open to conjecture. The country is hungry, however, for light stockers, as much grass east of the Missouri River is still untenanted in a bovine sense. Early in June \$10 to \$13 took most of the 500 to 800-pound steers of fair to good quality that went on grass. Shortage forced grazers to raid the cow market, paying \$8.50 to \$10 for females merely in canner flesh. To meet the emergency, Iowa threw off its tuberculin-test restrictions, permitting unrestricted imports of cows and heifers for grazing purposes. During the period of beef superabundance stock cattle were actually scarce.

Cows, heifers, and bulls have been radically out of line with steers, owing to scarcity. Canning cows at \$6.50 to \$7.50 have made money in the conversion process, owing to values of hides and by-products. Bologna bulls at \$10 to \$10.50 have been relatively higher than fat bulls, and fat cows at \$14 to \$15 looked more expensive in the beef than steers at the same price. All these inconsistencies will probably be ironed out as the season advances.

An enormous crop of dairy calves glutted every market from the Missouri River to Jersey City for weeks, depressing prices to absurdly low levels, when skin values are considered. Dressed veal actually sold at \$18 per cwt. on eastern markets, but consumers paid 40 to 60 cents per pound retail at the same time. At the low spot choice calves were vended at \$13 to \$13.75, but by June 1 the market had reacted to a \$16.50 to \$17 basis. The big run was a windfall for killers and retailers.

Hogs reached \$21.55 on the May high spot, but toward the end of the month packers began a bear raid, with the avowed intention of putting the market on an \$18 basis. Exports, which have been of phenomenal volume, show signs of diminishing as the larders of neutral and allied European countries are replenished; but what Germany and Austria will need in the shape of salt meats and fats, after the Peace Treaty is signed, is the uncertain factor. A heavy summer run of hogs is on the horizon, and, while September may record a high spot, a gradual descent to lower levels will be logical.

A run of California lambs has sold on eastern markets at \$17.50 to \$19. Southwestern lambs were thin, but Texas has contributed a lot of fat grass sheep that aided in depressing prices. Colorado lambs, which reached \$21 in April, dropped to \$18.50 in May; and shorn lambs, worth \$17 on the high spot, could not beat \$14.50 at the bottom of the break. Fat ewes found a \$10.50 to \$11 level, and yearlings did well to pass \$12.50 late in May. The break inflicted serious loss on western sheep-feeders, who expected a high May market.

At the beginning of June the whole trade had a shot-to-pieces appearance. That the period of war prices had passed was recognized, the trade admonishing country clients to exercise caution in making contracts for future delivery and purchasing thin stock.

The wool trade has enjoyed a miniature boom, going on a 45 to 60-cent basis, with 50 to 55-cent common prices for medium clips. Fine wools have regained pre-war popularity, coarse clips recently needed for military purposes selling at the low end of the range. The 1919 clip will go out of the growers' hands at much better prices than expected, although slightly lower than government values last year.

Interest in the live-mutton trade centers in the probable Corn Belt demand for feeders. Iowa is not likely to repeat last year's indiscretion, bankers having enjoined feeders not to enter into competition with packers, as losses on the last crop were enormous. So far little contracting has been done in the West, as speculators are afraid of the game and growers show a disposition to try out the market. Corn-huskers will be more plentiful this year; hence Iowa will not pay a stiff premium for western lambs to garner its corn crop. There will, however, be a broad demand for thin western lambs, as grass is abundant and the corn crop is going into the ground with abundant moisture.

JAMES E. POOLE.

STORAGE HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

BELOW is a summary of holdings of frozen and cured meats on May 1, 1919, compared with April 1, 1919, and May 1, 1918, as published by the Bureau of Markets:

Commodity	May 1, 1919 (Pounds)	April 1, 1919 (Pounds)	May 1, 1918 (Pounds)
Frozen beef.....	167,464,116	218,890,871	195,473,705
Cured beef.....	27,238,895	30,620,692	29,377,147
Lamb and mutton....	7,421,690	6,424,712	3,247,247
Frozen pork.....	138,233,474	141,703,327	114,716,171
Dry salt pork.....	412,544,134	422,185,369	467,436,445
Pickled pork.....	427,009,799	424,316,460	400,989,858
Lard.....	107,148,228	110,836,260	103,591,051
Miscellaneous.....	113,211,256	124,387,944	68,754,604

EXPORTS OF WOOL FROM ARGENTINA

THE subjoined table shows the exports of wool from the Argentine Republic for the seasons 1915-1918, together with the first four months of the season 1918-1919 (in bales of 924 pounds):

Exported to	Season 1915-16	Season 1916-17	Season 1917-18	Oct. 1, 1918- Mar. 1, 1919
United States.....	152,598	225,467	209,528	23,772
All countries.....	299,207	349,622	288,051	40,477

YEARLY MARKETINGS OF LIVE STOCK

THE combined receipts and shipments of cattle, hogs, and sheep at the seven markets of Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, St.

Louis, Sioux City, St. Joseph, and St. Paul for the four-year period 1915-1918, according to figures made public by the Department of Agriculture, were as follows:

Year	Cattle		Hogs		Sheep	
	Receipts	Shipments	Receipts	Shipments	Receipts	Shipments
1915.....	7,963,591	3,944,152	21,031,405	6,823,983	11,160,246	4,370,504
1916.....	9,319,851	4,713,700	25,345,802	8,264,752	11,639,022	4,640,615
1917.....	11,241,038	5,676,015	20,945,301	7,151,905	10,017,353	4,564,489
1918.....	12,936,068	5,388,838	25,461,514	7,111,935	12,064,416	5,749,835

LIVE STOCK AT STOCK-YARDS

FOLLOWING are tables showing receipts, shipments, and slaughter of live stock at the different markets throughout the country for the month of April, 1919, compared with April, 1918, and for the first four months of 1919, compared with the same period of last year:

RECEIPTS

(60 Markets)

	April, 1919	April, 1918	First four Months, 1919	First four Months, 1918
Cattle.....	1,704,816	1,978,098	6,703,023	6,842,479
Hogs.....	3,631,315	3,700,227	17,456,748	17,104,063
Sheep.....	1,398,345	1,128,066	5,279,544	4,703,746

TOTAL SHIPMENTS*

(55 Markets)

	April, 1919	April, 1918	First four Months, 1919	First four Months, 1918
Cattle.....	152,808	704,279	2,447,867	2,421,498
Hogs.....	1,072,893	1,269,529	5,118,135	5,853,459
Sheep.....	571,734	522,137	2,016,860	2,049,483

*Includes stockers and feeders, milkers and springers driven out.

LOCAL SLAUGHTER

(57 Markets)

	April, 1919	April, 1918	First four Months, 1919	First four Months, 1918
Cattle.....	1,026,380	1,244,211	4,143,852	4,314,800
Hogs.....	2,548,838	2,410,636	12,299,389	11,152,767
Sheep.....	840,306	610,257	3,260,940	2,644,742

ADVANCE IN YARDAGE CHARGES

FOLLOWING are the new yardage charges established within the past few months at important live-stock markets:

	Cattle	Calves	Hogs	Sheep
Chicago and Fort Worth.....	30c	20c	10c	7c
Denver and Oklahoma City...	30	15	10	7
Omaha.....	30	15	10	7
St. Louis*.....	30	15	10	10
Sioux City and St. Paul.....	30	20	10	7

(There have been no changes at Kansas City and St. Joseph, Mo.)

Stock-yards are now under federal license, administered by the Department of Agriculture. The Bureau of Markets has under consideration the reasonableness of these recent advances.

Stockmen desire that charges for yardage at all markets should be amply sufficient to enable stock-yard companies to furnish the best service possible. We hope that these increases, if permitted to stand, will result in a distinct improvement in such service.

The licensing and supervision of public stock-yards, packer buyers, commission men, traders, and others handling live stock in such stock-yards, was established under authority of the war powers given to the President under the act of August 10, 1917.

*This charge contemplates the holding of live stock in the yards for eight hours after 7 a. m. of the day of arrival. Beyond that period an additional per diem charge of 6, 3, 3, and 3 cents, respectively, will be made.

When peace is declared there will be no authority to continue this regulation. The Kendrick Bill provides for licensing of the packers, as well as all other agencies concerned in the handling of live stock at market centers.

HIGHER HIDE MARKET

BEGINNING about the first week in April, prices for hides and skins commenced to advance, and since then there has been a gradual increase in price. At the close of May the following were the prices paid for Chicago packer hides:

Kind	Price per Pound (Cents)
Spread steers	42
Heavy native steers.....	40
Heavy Texas steers.....	40
Light Texas steers.....	39
Colorados (range).....	39
Branded cows	35-38
Heavy native cows.....	35-40
Light native cows	40-41
Native bulls	28-30
Branded bulls	28-29
Calfskins	65-75

Country hides are selling at approximately 10 cents per pound less than the packer hide basis, depending upon take-off.

The advance in price during the past two months has been approximately 30 to 35 per cent. Present prices are the highest on record.

Hide and Leather, on May 24, said:

"Prevailing market conditions in hide and skin circles point to higher and higher levels. Approximate valuations on transactions of this week show average packer heavy native steers bringing about \$24 per hide; light native cows, about \$15; native bulls, about \$19; country buffs, about \$12; extremes, about \$13; while calfskins were bringing 70 cents per pound. These were some of the more prominent selections included in the week's activity. Startling values for hides, sure enough, which are not of prime quality. The leather market has been active on stock made from much lower-priced hides of better quality. It goes without saying that present raw stock values and conditions do not presage low-priced finished products. Conditions world-wide in the hide and leather trades are fertile soil for buoyancy, and no sharp recession is expected."

Prevailing prices on hides of all kinds are about 40 per cent higher than the basis established by the Price-Advancing Committee of the War Industries Board during the time of the war. Since the lid was taken off, prices have commenced to stiffen up.

We note that the current quotations of small country hide-dealers have not shown a proportionate advance. The spread between what they pay the small butcher and what they can secure for hides is too large.

Cattle are lower, beef prices have declined, but hides and other by-products are very much higher.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF EASTERN MEAT TRADE CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 30, 1919

Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburg and
Washington

[Bureau of Markets]

GENERAL MARKET CONDITIONS

Slow trade on all fresh meats, and weak and declining markets, have been general at all of the eastern cities.

BEEF

There has been only a small percentage of choice beef offered at any time, with the bulk of receipts showing considerable grass-fed stock. A strong effort was made on Monday to maintain prices in line with the previous week's close, but sharp price declines followed from day to day, and all markets are from \$1 to \$2 lower than one week ago. A comparison of prices on good grade steers shows a decline at Boston during the month of \$5, New York \$3, Philadelphia \$4, Pittsburg \$1, and Washington \$3, per hundred-weight. Bulls held fairly steady during the week, except at Boston, where prices are \$2 per hundred-weight below last week. Kosher beef weakened \$1 per hundred-weight at New York.

VEAL

Increased receipts at New York were more than equal to demand, and prices are \$2 lower than Monday. The demand elsewhere was about equal to the supply, with price tendency upward and healthy condition prevailing.

PORK

Fresh-pork markets have been somewhat unsettled since mid-week, with sharp declines at Boston and New York, and a general weak and draggy condition elsewhere. Light loins were in fair demand, but heavy loins and other cuts moved irregularly, with some accumulation at times.

LAMBS

While Philadelphia and New York held steady all week, other markets declined between \$1 and \$2 per hundred-weight. Heavy-weight lambs, although of good quality, were hard to move except at concessions. Lamb prices at Boston today are \$5.50 below quotations of May 2; New York \$5 and Pittsburg \$6 lower; Philadelphia and Washington same as May 2.

MUTTON

The demand for mutton has been generally poor, but conditions show some improvement, while prices at the principal mutton-consuming centers remained steady.

MARKET CLOSING

All markets are closing in a weak and draggy condition on beef at the lowest prices for the week. Philadelphia reports a heavy carry-over, while movement to freezer at Boston and New York continues. The clearance on lambs and mutton has been general, but undertone weak. Veal closed steady at New York at the week's decline, and a firm undertone elsewhere. Pork closed in an unsettled condition at markets, with a liberal carry-over and a moderate movement to freezer.

OPENING AND CLOSING WHOLESALE PRICES ON WESTERN DRESSED FRESH MEAT For Week Ending May 30, 1919 BOSTON

BEEF

STEERS:	
Choice	\$20.00-20.50
Good	19.00-19.50
Medium	18.00-19.00
Common	17.00-18.00
COWS:	
Good	\$16.50-17.50
Medium	15.00-16.00
Common	14.00-15.00
BULLS:	
Good	\$15.00-16.00
Medium	14.50-15.00
Common	14.00-14.50

LAMBS AND MUTTON

LAMBS:	
Choice	\$25.00-27.00
Good	24.00-25.00
Medium	21.00-23.00
Common	20.00-21.00
YEARLINGS:	
Good	\$21.00-22.00
Medium	15.00-16.00
Common	14.00-15.00
MUTTON:	
Medium	\$15.00-16.00
Common	14.00-15.00

NEW YORK

STEERS:	
Choice	
Good	\$20.00-22.00
Medium	18.00-20.00
Common	16.00-18.00
COWS:	
Good	
Medium	\$16.00-18.00
Common	15.00-16.00

LAMBS:	
Spring	\$30.00-32.00
Choice	29.00
Good	26.00-28.00
Medium	25.00-26.00
Common	24.00-25.00
YEARLINGS:	
Good	
Medium	
Common	

BULLS:

Good	\$17.00-18.00
Medium	16.00-17.00
Common	14.50-16.00

MUTTON:

Good	\$17.00-19.00
Medium	16.00-17.00
Common	

LIVE STOCK MARKET REPORT MAY 29, 1919

[Bureau of Markets]

HOGS

	CHICAGO	KANSAS CITY	OMAHA
Top	\$20.70	\$20.50	\$20.10
Bulk of Sales	20.35-20.60	20.05-20.35	19.75-19.90
Heavy Wt., Med. to Ch.	20.45-20.65	20.40-20.50	19.90-20.10
Medium Wt., Med. to Ch.	20.30-20.70	20.10-20.45	19.85-20.00
Light Wt., Com. to Ch.	20.00-20.60	19.25-20.25	19.70-19.90
Heavy Packing Sows, Sm'th.	19.75-20.10	19.75-20.00	19.75-19.85
Pigs, Med. to Ch.	18.00-19.00	14.00-18.00	16.00-19.00

CATTLE

BEEF STEERS:

Med. & Hvy. Wt. (1100 lb. up)—			
Choice and Prime	\$15.40-17.35	\$14.85-16.50	\$14.25-16.25
Good	13.50-15.65	13.40-15.15	12.50-14.50
Medium	12.50-13.75	12.15-13.65	12.25-13.00
Common	11.25-12.65	11.00-12.60	10.50-12.50
Light Wt. (1100 lb. down)—			
Choice and Prime	14.50-16.15	13.35-15.25	12.50-14.50
Med. and Good	12.00-14.65	10.85-13.50	11.00-13.00
Common	10.00-12.15	9.35-11.10	9.00-11.50

BUTCHER CATTLE—

Helpers, Com. to Ch.	7.75-13.75	6.65-13.40	7.25-12.50
Cows, Com. to Ch.	7.50-13.50	6.50-12.60	7.00-12.25
Bulls, Bologna and Beef	8.50-12.25	7.00-10.40	8.00-11.50

CANNERS AND CUTTERS—

Cows and Helpers	6.25-7.50	5.50-6.40	5.50-7.00
Canner Steers	7.75-10.00	7.50-9.25	

VEAL CALVES—

Light and Handyweight—			
Med. to Ch.	14.50-16.25	12.00-14.50	11.50-13.50
Heavy Weight—			
Com. to Ch.	8.50-14.50	7.25-13.75	8.00-11.50

FEEDER STEERS:

Heavy Weight (1000 lb. up)—			
Com. to Ch.	12.50-14.00	11.75-14.40	11.50-13.50
Medium Weight (800-1000 lb.)—			
Com. to Ch.	10.75-13.75	10.35-14.25	10.50-13.25
Light Weight (800 lb. down)—			
Com. to Ch.	10.00-13.25	9.65-14.00	9.75-13.00

STOCKER STEERS:

Com. to Ch.	8.00-13.00	7.25-13.50	7.50-12.25
-------------	------------	------------	------------

STOCKER COWS AND HEIFERS:

Com. to Ch.	8.00-10.25	6.50-10.40	7.00-9.00
-------------	------------	------------	-----------

STOCKER CALVES:

Good and Choice	10.50-13.00	9.25-12.75	9.50-11.50
Com. and Med.	8.00-10.50	6.00-9.00	7.50-9.50

SHEEP

LAMBS:

(84 lb. down) Med. to Pr.	\$13.50-15.40	\$13.75-14.35
(85 lb. up) Med. to Pr.	12.50-15.25	12.75-13.90
Culls and Common	9.50-12.50	9.00-13.00

SPRING LAMBS:

Med. to Ch.	17.25-19.25	17.50-18.50
-------------	-------------	-------------

YEARLING WETHERS:

Med. to Pr.	11.00-13.35	11.50-12.25
-------------	-------------	-------------

WETHERS:

Med. to Pr.	10.35-11.75	10.50-11.75
-------------	-------------	-------------

EWES:

Med. to Ch.	9.75-10.50	9.00-10.35
Culls and Common	4.50-9.50	6.00-9.00

(Above Quotations are for Shorn Offerings.)

YEARLING STEERS ADVANCE

DURING the past three seasons, when aged cattle, and those fit for the block, were rapidly advancing, young cattle—yearling steers and heifers—did not score a proportionate increase in price. Everyone wanted two-year-olds or upwards, so as to be able to mature them within the period of what they conceived would be high prices. Young stock was discriminated against.

This spring the situation is somewhat different. Yearling steers are selling at from \$5 to perhaps \$10 a head, in some instances, higher than at the same time last spring. All other stock is about the same, or lower. Breeders in the Southwest are now receiving a belated, but just, increase in price.

TRADE REVIEW

INSTABILITY OF CATTLE MARKET

CHICAGO, ILL., May 26, 1919.

SOMETHING is radically wrong with the cattle market. Since the crest of the rise in April was reached, fat bullocks have declined anywhere from \$2 to \$3.50 per cwt. Every vestige of stability has disappeared, steers of practically the same value selling \$1 per cwt. apart. On the same session this frequently happens, fluctuations of \$1 to \$1.50 per cwt. within a few days occur with persistent regularity, and half of the time the trade is demoralized. No explanation has been forthcoming. Packers advance the trite excuse that they cannot sell beef; but the product goes into distributive channels promptly, nevertheless; otherwise their buyers would not ride their horses lame whenever a short run occurs. Liquidation has undoubtedly been stimulated by the advance in corn, scarcity of roughage, and increasing lack of confidence among feeders. A liberal run of Texas cattle—the first in three years—has put killers in possession of a lot of cheap beef—cheap in a relative sense. The entire trans-Missouri region has been unloading winter-fed stuff, and eastern cattle have gone to the butcher thirty days in advance of the usual time. What cattle-feeders cannot understand is why the bulk of steers should sell \$5 to \$6 per cwt. lower than hogs. This may be partly explained by the fact that hog products are exportable in unlimited quantity, while that outlet has been all but closed to beef, the last heavy government order having been filled. Europe is getting an adequate supply of beef from South America and Australia, and if England did not control marine refrigeration, New York and other Atlantic seaboard markets would even now be filled with foreign beef, as cost on the hooks at River Plata slaughter-houses is on a parity with that of live cattle at Chicago.

Exploitation of top quotations—a favorite practice with beef distributors—is reprehensible. Sales of fat cattle above \$17 at all the markets of the United States may be easily enumerated, as the great mass of the corn and other fed stuff is going over the scales at a range of \$13 to \$15.50. No logical reason for an occasional transaction above \$18 can be detected, as that price has taken as good bullocks as ever saw the stock-yards during the past month. A packer recently paid \$19.75 for a load of heavy bullocks, but cattle of equal quality and dressing capacity sold at \$18.50 on the same session. The feeder has never encountered the same element of chance in market history.

Hoof cost has steadily declined, but retail prices have actually advanced meanwhile. The steak one gets for a dollar in the average restaurant or hotel under present conditions figures about \$5 per pound, and is of inferior quality at that. Retailers and restaurant-keepers are not only charging all the traffic can bear, but the additional impost is seriously repressing consumption. A year ago the producer contended with beefless days and meals, but at that period the government inserted a stout prop under the market, making a healthy outlet for heavy bullocks which have encountered most of the recent vicissitude. Packers are endeavoring to cheapen cost on the hooks, creating an unpromising prospect for weighty steers, despite the fact that a shortage of mature stock exists everywhere.

That producers are alarmed needs neither assertion nor emphasis. Feeders and grazers have loaded up with the highest-priced cattle in trade history, and are threatened with serious loss unless consumption revives. The business has been on

a gambling basis for years, and at this moment is highly speculative. Packers are able to recoup losses on a few days of high buying by breaking the market \$1 per cwt. or so, but growers have no means of making such averages. Commission-house correspondence is freighted with anxious inquiry as to what the summer and fall market is likely to develop, and prophecy is impossible. Packers appear to have an insatiable appetite for hogs, but want nothing else. Live mutton trade is in much the same demoralized condition as the cattle market, acting much like a rudderless ship on an uncharted sea.

Stabilization is a popular theme. At the May 15 meeting between packers and producers on that subject, held behind closed doors, an imposing group of committees was selected, with the ostensible purpose of devising ways and means for reforming existing and admitted evils; regulation of receipts, improved transportation methods, and other stereotyped remedies being suggested; but it is doubtful if this prescription will prove to be a panacea. Nobody connected with the trade can understand why killers refuse to buy cattle at the tail end of a dollar break, but go to them greedily the following week at a sharp advance. Their statements are invariably inconsistent with their actions, as a few days subsequent to concerted assertion that their coolers are full of unsalable beef they buy recklessly at sharp advances. Evidently killers are timid, but their buying policy is susceptible of but one explanation. By taking a short run one week at substantial advances, they stimulate loading in the country, insuring liberal receipts the next week, creating opportunity for bear raids, of which they promptly take advantage. High markets are naturally mercurial, but no excuse can be advanced for such wild and radical mutations as have occurred with weekly regularity during the past sixty days.

Frank B. McClain, of Lancaster, Pa., surveying the Chicago market, recently said: "It looks to me as though everybody at the stock-yards has gone crazy. Buying cattle that look exactly alike at prices \$1 per cwt. apart does not savor of sanity." A buyer for one of the big concerns admitted recently that a discrepancy of \$1 to \$1.50 per cwt. in the cost of beef on the hooks was common. This, of course, concerns the killer less than the producer, as, if he buys a few loads high, he can reduce his average by paring the price on other bullocks of the same kind; but it plays havoc with feeders who market their product at irregular intervals. If confidence in the industry is to be maintained, buying tactics must be radically changed. Beef trade is a deep and dark mystery, but the time-worn contention that beef always vends at a loss no longer receives credence. Packers have recently advanced the argument that an advancing hide market and good prices for by-products have pulled them out of a hole, but the fact remains that there is a wide and illogical discrepancy between cattle cost and that of beef as it goes over the retailer's counter, and, unless this can be adjusted, the outlook for the cattle-grower is anything but luminous. It is customary and unpopular to deride this contention, but the trade is confronted with a set of cold, hard facts. If the present system of meat distribution is archaic, uneconomical, and restrictive of consumption, the sooner the truth is known, the better. This problem appears to justify investigation by the Bureau of Markets, which publishes from day to day a lugubrious set of dressed-meat trade reports.

An illustration of unstable market conditions will be convincing. The first week of May an Iowa feeder reached Chicago with a string of 1,100-pound short-fed bullocks, for which he was bid \$15.75 per cwt. He concluded to try out the market, carried his property over into the following week, and ran into a bear raid, on which he was finally bid \$14.25. In desperation he concluded to wait until the next week, which developed a short run, enabling him to get out at \$15.75, the original bid; but as he had run up a heavy feed bill, he did not profit by the

advance. Dressed-beef prices remained at the same levels meanwhile; in fact, retail cost was actually advanced. If a satisfactory reason for a market of that kind can be advanced, feeders would like to hear it.

All indications point to a wild set of summer markets. Liquidation incidental to the advance in corn has undoubtedly dislodged a lot of cattle that would otherwise have been carried into June or July; killers will not have access to the usual crop of stillers this season, and, between subsidence of the Texas movement and beef-gathering in the pastoral region, a bare spot may develop; but the prospect is by no means reassuring, especially for heavy bullocks. Elimination of confidence is a factor not to be ignored, as it insures constant supply pressure. Every steer in the visible supply was put in high, and, whether on grass or grain, is being finished at unprecedented cost, justifying nervousness by owners.

A high summer hog market is a certainty. Export volume is limited only by ocean transport facilities. Every packer in the country, large or small, wants hogs, and, even with a liberal movement, no bargain sale will be possible. A June break and a high September trade will be logical, as during the next ninety days sows will be marketed freely, insuring a wider spread.

Live-mutton trade needs the services of an apologist. Corn Belt feeders were severely stung on last summer's purchases, and are flying a danger signal; consumption of both lamb and mutton is restricted, and a big lamb crop has been raised. This

market has been even more erratic than cattle recently. To quote a letter sent to the country on May 16, by one of the principal houses handling sheep exclusively:

"We cannot see any sense in breaking the fed-lamb market as much as it has been broken the past week or ten days, and it does not give feeders much encouragement for feeding another year. Whether receipts are light or heavy, buyers seem able to do as they please with the market. We used to complain, a good many years ago, about the bad markets. While everything was a great deal lower than it is now, the market would vary from 10 to 15 cents a day. Now it is 50 cents up or 50 down, or 'we won't buy them at all.' Every day there has been stuff carried over without bids, and some was carried from last week's market until this without a bid. This condition is suicide to any industry, and, unless we can have more stabilized markets, the sheep-feeding game will be a thing of the past. No man, no matter what business he is in, can stand such radical changes and continue to operate. And, in our opinion, there is no need for these radical conditions."

This was written by one of the best sheep salesmen in the country, who added: "You cannot sell anything until about noon, and one buyer will bid a dollar more than others for the same stuff."

Trouble is brewing over existing market conditions. Dissatisfaction among feeders is widespread, and unless remedial measures are devised, western cattlemen and sheepmen will join in the chorus as the season works along. A trade with several prices on the same commodity needs revision.

JAMES E. POOLE.

LIVE STOCK IN PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES

THE following statistics, showing the present number of live stock in some of the principal countries as compared with the pre-war period, have been compiled from the latest official reports of the respective countries and of the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome. As will be noticed, the Central Powers, Russia, Siberia, China, Mexico, and the whole continent of Africa, from which no reliable figures are available, have been omitted

from the list; likewise a number of minor countries whose live-stock holdings are too insignificant to appreciably affect the grand total. While the dates of the censuses or estimates for the countries named do not exactly coincide, it is believed that they are sufficiently close together to afford a reasonably accurate basis for comparison:

Country	Cattle		Sheep		Swine	
	Recent Estimate	Before War	Recent Estimate	Before War	Recent Estimate	Before War
Argentina.....	27,050,000	25,867,000	44,850,000	43,225,000	.....	.....
Australia.....	11,429,000	11,745,000	83,715,000	92,047,000	1,007,000	1,026,000
Brazil.....	28,962,000	30,705,000	7,205,000	10,653,000	17,329,000	18,399,000
Canada.....	10,051,000	6,533,000	3,053,000	2,175,000	4,290,000	3,610,000
Cuba.....	3,962,000	2,830,000	.....	.....	.....	.....
Denmark.....	2,142,000	2,463,000	470,000	515,000	727,000	2,497,000
France.....	12,443,000	14,788,000	10,587,000	16,213,000	4,200,000	7,048,000
India.....	130,145,000	125,042,000	.....	.....	.....	.....
Italy.....	6,155,000	7,100,000	11,000,000	11,000,000	.....	.....
Japan.....	1,343,000	1,389,000	.....	.....	328,000	310,000
Netherlands.....	2,301,000	2,097,000	521,000	842,000	.....	.....
New Zealand.....	2,888,000	2,020,000	26,538,000	23,996,000	258,000	349,000
Norway.....	1,119,000	1,146,000	1,281,000	1,327,000	221,000	228,000
Paraguay.....	5,249,000	2,461,000	600,000	222,000	61,000	37,000
Spain.....	3,071,000	2,879,000	16,012,000	16,441,000	2,814,000	2,710,000
Sweden.....	3,020,000	2,721,000	1,344,000	988,000	1,030,000	968,000
Switzerland.....	1,616,000	1,443,000	172,000	161,000	544,000	570,000
United Kingdom.....	12,311,000	12,145,000	27,063,000	27,552,000	2,809,000	3,940,000
United States.....	67,866,000	56,592,000	49,863,000	49,719,000	75,587,000	58,933,000
Uruguay.....	7,803,000	8,193,000	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals.....	340,926,000	320,159,000	284,274,000	297,076,000	111,205,000	100,625,000

From this table it will be seen that the fear, still prevailing in many quarters, of the disastrous effect of the war on the world's supplies of meat-food animals has been without foundation. What losses have occurred among the warring nations, and some of the neutrals, of Europe have been more than offset by the gains

on this side of the Atlantic. It should be borne in mind, of course, that, owing to lack of feed-stuffs, the condition of the cattle in large parts of Europe is somewhat below standard. But, viewing the situation as a whole, as far as live stock is concerned, a return to the normal balance should be a matter of only a short time.

EXPORTS OF MEAT PRODUCTS*

THE following tables, published by the Department of Commerce, show the exports of beef and hog products (those of mutton were negligible) from the United States for the six calen-

dar years 1913-1918, inclusive, together with the exports for the first four months of 1919 as compared with the same period of last year:

BEEF PRODUCTS
(Pounds)

CLASSIFICATION	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
Beef—canned.....	4,163,095	30,734,748	70,709,348	54,026,922	65,471,232	141,447,163
Beef—fresh.....	6,850,123	31,422,463	262,839,637	181,976,831	216,419,599	514,341,529
Beef—pickled, etc.....	25,180,539	23,779,449	42,690,653	36,682,614	67,810,990	44,208,020
Oleo oil.....	100,747,458	85,144,527	109,395,763	83,891,672	33,399,548	69,106,350
Oleomargarine.....	2,916,955	2,292,690	6,774,278	6,309,330	3,522,540	8,909,108
Tallow.....	28,234,622	9,980,066	26,568,003	15,338,057	7,510,376	4,222,657
Totals.....	168,092,792	183,353,943	518,977,682	378,225,426	394,134,285	782,234,827

CLASSIFICATION	JANUARY		FEBRUARY		MARCH		APRIL	
	1919	1918	1919	1918	1919	1918	1919	1918
Beef—canned.....	12,636,060	4,035,955	8,151,723	9,888,690	8,997,973	11,982,302	2,896,759	11,815,176
Beef—fresh.....	17,436,495	30,852,388	13,729,993	16,407,981	14,651,276	62,064,261	21,639,915	51,882,770
Beef—pickled, etc.....	6,030,937	7,491,998	3,635,120	2,839,315	3,749,394	1,592,114	2,673,681	2,607,752
Oleo oil.....	5,552,790	1,045,503	4,452,805	26,21,266	4,154,644	10,938,333	7,667,229	6,219,813
Totals.....	41,656,282	43,425,844	29,969,641	31,757,252	31,553,287	86,577,010	34,877,584	72,525,511

HOG PRODUCTS
(Pounds)

CLASSIFICATION	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
Bacon.....	212,796,618	184,267,850	522,454,303	592,851,157	578,128,056	1,104,788,081
Hams and shoulders—cured.....	171,671,407	142,398,301	266,477,057	287,161,195	243,386,814	537,213,041
Lard.....	536,179,645	438,015,898	451,053,321	426,659,599	372,721,342	548,817,901
Neutral lard.....	39,312,411	21,797,521	35,386,318	27,264,774	9,423,385	6,307,164
Pork—canned.....	3,651,101	2,786,415	7,952,028	7,263,012	5,377,226	5,267,342
Pork—fresh.....	3,182,678	1,250,977	24,233,183	55,112,043	49,372,780	11,632,635
Pork—pickled.....	53,984,973	37,006,168	59,143,497	54,975,221	39,294,011	36,672,260
Lard compounds.....	63,699,754	63,355,911	63,567,385	49,821,709	49,300,143	43,975,610
Totals.....	1,084,478,587	890,879,041	1,430,267,092	1,501,108,710	1,347,003,757	2,294,674,034

CLASSIFICATION	JANUARY		FEBRUARY		MARCH		APRIL	
	1919	1918	1919	1918	1919	1918	1919	1918
Bacon.....	101,000,122	53,850,514	114,842,525	50,903,829	151,086,397	155,603,947	141,814,255	127,400,406
Hams and shoulders.....	54,846,433	16,494,030	49,283,053	29,287,818	85,712,426	77,729,798	109,569,968	93,426,880
Lard.....	37,850,338	20,706,295	68,972,779	31,682,756	97,239,435	68,721,464	86,555,951	53,885,002
Neutral lard.....	81,160	38,302	152,555	257,759	3,563,052	56,279	5,578,881	566,221
Pork—pickled.....	2,273,683	1,457,456	1,956,362	1,980,860	2,141,508	3,968,600	2,494,454	5,171,848
Lard compounds.....	4,869,620	905,946	6,976,237	1,392,090	5,602,408	2,994,097	22,610,916	3,318,384
Totals.....	200,921,356	93,452,543	242,183,511	115,505,112	345,345,226	309,074,185	368,624,425	283,768,741

*For the war period these figures include meat products exported to the American army abroad on merchant vessels, but not such as were carried on transports and other war vessels.

LIVE STOCK IN THE UNITED STATES

THE Bureau of Crop Estimates of the Department of Agriculture makes public the following estimates of live stock on farms and ranches of the United States on January 1, 1919, as

compared with one year ago, the pre-war period (1914), and the Census figures of April 15, 1910. The number not on farms is not estimated yearly.

Farm Animals	Jan. 1, 1919		Jan. 1, 1918		Jan. 1, 1914		Apr. 15, 1910	
	Number	Value per Head	Number	Value per Head	Number	Value per Head	Number	Value per Head
Horses.....	21,534,000	\$ 98.48	21,555,000	\$104.24	20,962,000	\$109.32	19,833,000	\$108.03
Mules.....	4,925,000	135.59	4,873,000	128.81	4,449,000	123.85	4,210,000	120.20
Milch cows.....	23,469,000	78.24	23,310,000	70.54	20,737,000	53.94	20,625,000	35.29
Other cattle.....	44,399,000	44.16	44,112,000	40.88	35,855,000	31.13	41,178,000	19.07
Sheep.....	49,863,000	11.61	48,603,000	11.82	49,719,000	4.02	52,448,000	4.12
Swine.....	75,587,000	22.04	70,978,000	19.54	58,933,000	10.40	58,186,000	9.17

ROUND THE RANGE

LIVE STOCK IN MEXICO

That section of the Republic of Mexico known as the healthy, or non-tick, area is located in the State of Chihuahua and a portion of the States of Coahuila and Durango. Part of the State of Sonora is clean, but the whole state is frequently quarantined because of ticky cattle coming up from the southern and western portions. In this clean district, which is somewhat similar to parts of New Mexico, Arizona, and Texas, were some of the largest herds of cattle and sheep in the world before the Madero revolution and the commencement of the unending trouble in Mexico.

It has been estimated by well-informed stockmen that 90 per cent of the cattle in this clean area have disappeared since the trouble began, and that a large number of them were killed, by order of the different revolutionary chiefs, for the hides alone, and the carcasses left. Dealers were able to dispose of the hides by shipping them in bond, but could not use the meat. The losses of sheep, goats, and horses have been in about the same proportion. Some of the American companies shipped into the United States what cattle they could gather and get over the border on the payment of outrageously high export duties to the parties who happened to be in control of the territory at the time of the shipment. To a more limited extent, some of the live-stock holdings of Mexican owners were also shipped to this country and sold. In most cases the Mexican owners realized only a small part of the real value of the live stock, the balance being represented by the well-nigh confiscatory charges imposed for export.

Don Luis Terrazas before the revolution branded about 90,000 calves annually, and ran about 200,000 head of sheep. His ranches have been stripped entirely of live stock of every description.

The herds of Don Carl Zuloaga, which grazed on the Bustillos, Tres Hermanos, Bachimba, and adjoining ranches, and numbered perhaps 100,000 head, have all completely disappeared.

There are still some cattle, perhaps not to exceed 3,000 head, on the Mestanas Ranch of Don Castulo Baca, in the north-eastern part of the State of Chihuahua, but this is only a remnant of what formerly ran there. The live stock on the ranches of Enrique Creel, in the same district, is gone.

In western Chihuahua was located the Corralitos Ranch, which possessed at one

time in the neighborhood of 50,000 cattle. Now most of them are gone. Farther west are the ranches belonging to C. K. Warren & Co. and the Palomas Land and Cattle Company. Their holdings have been badly depleted. The Hearst Ranch, run by Mr. John Hayes, probably has from 10,000 to 15,000 cattle, whereas formerly it had over 60,000 head.

In Sonora there are a good many cattle left, largely because the authorities in charge would not permit wanton slaughter by roaming bands of outlaws.

The problem of restocking the clean area in Mexico, after conditions become normal—if they ever do—is a big task. Probably the majority of the cattle will have to come from the southern part of the State of Durango and from Sonora. But it will take many years to do this, and to breed the cattle up to the high standard which existed before the revolution.

GOVERNOR OF TEXAS VETOES BILL TO PROTECT SHIPPERS

Considerable disappointment has been caused among Texas cattlemen by the announcement that the bill recently passed by the legislature of that state for the safeguarding of the interests of live-stock shippers has been vetoed by Governor Hobby.

Among commission men at the Fort Worth stock-yards (and to a regrettable extent at certain other markets) it has long been the custom to deposit to their own credit the proceeds from the sales of cattle consigned to them, and to remit a company check to the shipper. In that way the latter was left without protection against loss in case of failure of the commission firm. An actual occurrence of this kind last fall, involving an amount of approximately \$100,000, brought the matter to a head. A bill was introduced in the legislature amending the present law by requiring live-stock commission firms to furnish surety bond in the sum of not less than \$50,000, and to make all remittances covering the proceeds of live-stock sales by certified check or bank exchange within forty-eight hours after the sale. The bill was sponsored by the Cattle Raisers' Association of Texas, and had the indorsement of cattlemen generally throughout the state.

Governor Hobby, in discussing his veto, gave as his reason that he had been informed by the commission men that "it would be impossible for them to carry on

their business" under the proposed regulations, in that they would be left without protection in cases where the cattle turned out to be mortgaged. He has, however, agreed to submit the matter to the special session of the legislature, and the backers of the measure hope yet to see it enacted into law.

Similar legislation by other states is much to be desired.

SALE OF HORSE MEAT IN NEW YORK ABOLISHED

By order of the Board of Health, the slaughtering of horses for human consumption in New York City was discontinued on May 1. The department felt that the volume of business did not justify the cost of inspection. Only about twenty-five animals had been killed weekly. Moreover, most of these were of a decidedly inferior grade—worn-out work-horses and horses injured beyond cure—making it necessary to condemn a large portion of the meat. The average American does not as yet take kindly to horse flesh, and the sale was practically confined to those of foreign birth who had been accustomed to this diet in their native countries.

Good horse steak meat occasionally reached a price of 23 cents a pound, retail, but in general the product sold for from 8 to 15 cents.

* * *

It is reported from Riverton, Wyo., that the Federal Packing Company will soon erect a horse-slaughtering plant there. A horse market will be established, and weekly auctions are to be held. The flesh of the animals will be canned for European consumption, and the hides tanned.

There are large numbers of wild horses on some of the open ranges and national forests of the West, which consume vast quantities of grass and other forage badly needed for cattle and sheep. Control and disposition of these horses is a difficult problem. Big packers have hitherto declined to open horse-slaughtering departments, on account of the sentimental effect it might have on their meat trade. There is no necessity for consumers in this country eating horse flesh, as there is plenty of other meat available. Our government should look into this wild-horse evil.

RECORD LAMB CROP IN NORTH-WEST

All reports indicate that the lamb crop in the northwestern states this season will be of record proportions. Some flockmasters in Idaho and California report as high as 115 per cent, while certain sections of Oregon show even 130 per cent.

SWAT THE FLY!

Now is the time to start the spring drive against the house-fly. A pair of flies born in May may be the progenitors of millions by August. Keep the first pair from breeding:

- By keeping stables clean;
- By removing all manure at least twice a week;
- By keeping garbage in receptacles, with close-fitting covers, which should be emptied and washed out frequently.
- By building only sanitary privies where sewers are not available.

Swatting, trapping, or poisoning flies is very good. Still better is it to prevent them from multiplying. In filth they breed; on filth they feed; in filth they live and move and have their being; with filth they contaminate everything they put their dirty little feet on, spreading disease far and wide—typhoid fever, diarrhea, dysentery, tuberculosis, and a host of others. Do not give them a chance!

THE COMING OF THE LOCUST

This is "locust" summer. For seventeen years the strident insects have been developing under ground, to emerge full-fledged in countless millions this spring, almost at the same hour. Contrary to popular belief, the "seventeen-year locust"—which, by the way, is no locust at all, but a cicada—is comparatively harmless. Unlike the real locust—which is a grasshopper—it does not ravage grass or grain fields. What little damage it does is confined to the foliage and young fruit of trees. It is scheduled to appear in twenty-one states. Crawling into the tree under which he was born, the male will start his love-song, mate, die, and fall to the ground, almost in the exact spot where, seventeen years ago, as a larva, he dug himself in.

SHEEP CONDITIONS GOOD IN SOUTHWEST

Reports reaching the Bureau of Markets indicate that sheep conditions throughout the greater part of the Southwest are favorable. Arizona especially has had the best season for many years. The feed on the desert has been abundant, and the weather ideal for early lambing. About 125,000 lambs were pastured in the Imperial Valley in California. Owing to the severe droughts which have prevailed in Texas for the past years, the supply is short in that state; but the plentiful rains which have fallen during the winter and spring months have put grass on the range, and the sheep going to market will be in good condition. New Mexico has had the hardest winter in the history of the state, the loss through the northern part has been very heavy, and the lamb crop is estimated at only 50 per cent of the normal.

ENGLISH MEAT SITUATION

The *London Meat Trades Journal* anticipates that home-grown meat will be abundant in Great Britain in the late summer, because stockmen will send to market all the cattle they can get ready, in order to receive the benefit of the government guarantee on cattle, which expires at the end of next September.

Advices to THE PRODUCER from England do not offer much encouragement for American beef, unless there should be a lack of vessels to handle the Argentine, Australian, and New Zealand supplies, which are reputed to be large. The question of finance is not involved in English purchases to the same extent as in other consuming countries. British cattle are not in as good condition as usual, on account of lack of animal feeds.

At the time the armistice was signed, England was understood to have sufficient hog products to last into August of this year, even if she did not import any. England has always been a good purchaser of our hog products, and will continue to be.

SHIPMENTS FROM TEXAS LIGHT THIS YEAR

The movement of cattle from Texas to Oklahoma and Kansas pastures is reported to be considerably lighter this season than a year ago. Last year a total of 3,396 cars were moved into Kansas and the Osage country of Oklahoma from southern Texas, whereas this season so far only about 2,550 cars have been moved to these points. This falling-off is due to the fact that, on account of the high cost of feed, the shipments from Texas last fall and winter were extraordinarily heavy, while this spring many cattle from the plains and the Panhandle have been shipped southward to take advantage of the early grass in the warmer sections of Texas. Kansas is well stocked with cattle, and grazing conditions are said to be excellent.

TICK CAMPAIGN UNDER WAY

Cattle dippings in March of this year totaled 1,203,497, as compared with 996,505 in March, 1918. This is the best record since the fight against the cattle-fever tick began in 1906, and indicates that a large amount of territory will be cleaned up this year. Dipping vats in operation number 29,255, as against 22,879 a year ago.

Stock-growers generally are waking up to the menace of this pest, which, by sucking the blood of the animals, and thereby reducing their vitality, has been one of the most prolific causes of winter losses on the range. Reports received by the Bureau of Animal Industry tell how, by dipping their cattle at regular two-week intervals last season, stockmen in Harris County, Texas, succeeded in carrying their herds through the winter with practically no losses.

MEAT RETAILERS CURTAIL BEEF-EATING

[Breeder's Gazette]

Hogs have advanced \$3 per cwt., while fat cattle have lost nearly as much, establishing an unprecedented condition. The two branches of the trade are usually on terms of intimacy at this season. The situation is susceptible of several kinds of plausible explanation. One is that little beef is going across the Atlantic, while packers have no difficulty in sending a large proportion of their pork products into export channels at any price within reason. Another is that the public is balking at war prices and curtailing consumption. A large percentage of the beef consumed domestically goes to the public by the hotel and restaurant route. Most of these establishments are exacting higher charges than prevailed during the war. A dollar steak does not tax the capacity of even a small platter, and the slice of roast beef a diner gets for the same money would cost an astounding sum per pound if weighed. Small meats and chops relieve the burden on the diner's pocket, and beef is correspondingly penalized.

Retailers are taxing beef trade to the limit, further restricting consumption, especially at a season when other foods are abundant and relatively cheap. Between stock-yard prices or cost at the packers' coolers and retail or restaurant charges, a discrepancy exists that explains why the cattle-feeder is being punished.

It is doubtless true that the costs of conversion and distribution have been materially enhanced by the general advance incidental to the war, but no reason exists for current beef charges by distributors. These charges are so radically disproportionate to carcass costs as to savor of extortion. The traffic has been taxed in excess of its bearing capacity.

WEATHER CONDITIONS IN MAY

Advices to THE PRODUCER indicate that serious conditions of drought have prevailed over large areas of the range country during the past month. Except for the coast fringe of Washington and Oregon, practically no rain has fallen west of the Rockies. In some sections it was not needed, but they were the exception. To the east of the mountains, local showers around the middle of May relieved the situation somewhat in certain regions—notably eastern Montana, the Dakotas, and parts of Nebraska and Kansas. In Texas the precipitation ranged from zero for a hundred miles to the east of El Paso to upward of six inches in the Gulf district.

In parts of the mountain territory the snowfall was scant during the winter and spring, in some portions being less than one-half of the normal amount. This condition is especially pronounced on the eastern slope.

AFTER THE DAY'S WORK

THE "FOURTEEN POINTS"

President Wilson's famous "Fourteen Points" have been, and are being, so extensively discussed that a brief summarization may not be out of place:

1. "Open covenants of peace, openly arrived at."
2. Freedom of the seas, in peace and war.
3. Equality of trade conditions.
4. Reduction of armaments.
5. Adjustment of colonial claims with reference to the wishes of the governed population.
6. Evacuation of all Russian territory.
7. Evacuation and restoration of Belgium.
8. Evacuation of French territory, restoration of Alsace-Lorraine.
9. Readjustment of Italy's frontiers along lines of nationality.
10. Autonomous development for the peoples of Austria-Hungary.
11. Independence of Roumania, Servia, and Montenegro.
12. Relinquishment of Turkish control over non-Turkish populations.
13. Erection of an independent Polish state, with free and secure access to the sea.
14. A League of Nations to guarantee independence and territorial integrity to great and small states alike.

NEWSPAPER POLL ON LEAGUE OF NATIONS

The *Literary Digest* recently addressed the following question to all the daily newspapers in the United States: "Do you favor the proposed League of Nations?" Of the 1,377 editors who responded, 718 answered "yes;" 478, "yes, conditionally;" 181, "no."

DEBTS OF WARRING COUNTRIES

Here are the debts of the principal belligerent nations:

United States	\$25,921,000,000
Great Britain	27,636,000,000
Australia	942,000,000
Canada	1,011,000,000
New Zealand	611,000,000
Union of South Africa	734,000,000
France	22,227,000,000
Italy	6,676,000,000
Russia	25,583,000,000
Germany	25,403,000,000
Austria	13,314,000,000
Hungary	5,764,000,000

AMERICAN CANNERIES DEFEATING WORLD HUNGER

[*Literary Digest*]

All through the war we had one hundred and twenty million allies who needed food, and the close of the war brings two hundred million additional mouths and appetites to our table. So it is a big relief to learn that the possibilities of the canning industry have scarcely been touched. In 1914 we were preserving three billion cans of food a year. We have more than doubled this production. But our canners must keep on canning more busily than ever; for the United States soldiers have consumed 1,500,000 cans or jars of food daily, or about 548,000,000 a year. Figured at an average retail price of 25 cents a package, the value would be close to \$137,000,000. The biggest item is condensed or evaporated milk. Then, in the order of their quantities, come jams, tomatoes, corn, baked beans, peas, salmon, peaches, pineapples, catsup, stringless beans, apricots, pumpkins, lobsters, and clam juice.

The total quantity of foodstuffs of all kinds required daily for our army at its maximum was 13,500,000 pounds, or the equivalent of 225 carloads. In a year this would make a train of 82,125 cars. The quantity of food sent from the United States to the allied countries has been almost incredible. Of all kinds, including canned products, we furnished between July of 1914 and the summer of 1918 complete rations for 60,000,000 people for a year, and, in addition, supplied proteins for 23,000,000 others. Of all this, 99 per cent went to England and France.

CANDY IN THE ARMY

Uncle Sam likes his boys to have plenty of candy, and hands it to them by the carload. A conservative statement of the total amount of sugar consumed by the army is 225,000,000 pounds. It is found that about 237 pounds of sugar is eaten by 1,000 men at their meals in one day.

SHEEP-KILLING DOGS

An estimate that 100,000 sheep are killed by dogs in this country each year is published by the *Geographical Magazine*. It prints a picture of 193 dead sheep, killed in one night by two dogs.

RABBIT PEST IN AUSTRALIA

In spite of all preventive measures, the rabbits in Australia seem to be rapidly increasing in number. The quantity of grass destroyed by these pests is enormous, being one of the causes of the present shortage of stock in that country, says a correspondent to the *National Provisioner*. It was recently estimated that, owing to rabbit depredations, New South Wales is now grazing only half the number of sheep maintained twenty years ago.

TO ARGENTINA BY RAIL

Within the memory of living men a railroad across the United States to the Pacific coast seemed a foolhardy undertaking. To lay a line of rails north and south through the two Americas seems a stupendous scheme; yet it is actually nearer accomplishment than the "Pacific Railway" was at the close of the Civil War. It is understood, of course, that the Pan-American railway scheme is not a plan to build a long single line, but simply to construct enough connecting links to furnish continuous rail travel from New York, say, to Buenos Aires—about 10,000 miles. Railroad-builders have been busy in South America during the last few years, and month by month they have been expanding the steel grid which is unifying the rapid transit of our neighbor continent.

HOW CENTRAL AMERICAN INDIANS WORK FOR CIVILIZATION

[*Literary Digest*]

Deep in the jungles of the world unthought-of savages are constantly, by primitive methods, producing commodities that are important elements in our civilization. About the San Juan River and the headwaters of the Atrato, in Colombia, lies the greatest field of platinum ever discovered. Here, under control of American interests, Indians obtain the precious metal by the most primitive methods of placer-mining. The natives dive into the water, sinking by means of stones tied around their bodies. They scoop into a bag all the gravel they can find before they are compelled to rise to the surface. The women wash out the gravel, separating the gold and platinum from the dirt.

WHAT THE GERMANS DID TO FRANCE

According to figures quoted by the French High Commission in this country, the destruction wrought by the Germans in France includes 27,000 factories, 440,000 homes, 300,000 agricultural implements, 3,000 miles of railway track, 1,000 bridges, and 400 tunnels.

INSECT RAINBOWS

[Literary Digest]

Do you know that there are beetles of every color of the spectrum?—that there is a variety of grasshopper that wears all the colors of the rainbow?—that some insects are so metallic-looking as to seem artificial?—that some are iridescent?—and, finally, do you know that there is such a thing as a pure-white beetle? In the American Museum of Natural History, New York, is a series of insects remarkable for their coloring. It begins with a "beetle spectrum," made up of beetles from all parts of the world. Placed in the correct order, the beetles run through the various phases from red to violet. In addition, the common black beetle is shown, as is also the rare all-white beetle from Brazil.

WHAT IS THIRST?

Thirst used to be interpreted solely as due to dryness of the throat. Later it was looked upon as a "general sensation" caused by lack of fluids throughout the organism. It is interesting to learn from an editorial in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* that the earlier view is again preferred by modern authorities. Thirst may be primarily due to general lack of bodily fluids, but its local manifestation is due to the fact that the salivary glands are peculiarly sensitive to this lack, and that it soon shows itself there by decreased secretion. Hence the dry throat and the "dryness" associated with thirst.

INCOMPETENCE GREATEST CAUSE OF FAILURES

That personal incompetence is one of the most prolific causes of business failures has long been recognized. Statisticians figure that the reasons for the failures in 1917 and 1918 were divided as shown in the subjoined table:

Failures Due to—	1918 Per Cent	1917 Per Cent
Incompetency	36.5	35.5
Inexperience	6.7	6.8
Lack of capital	33.2	31.9
Unwise credits	1.3	1.9
Failures of others .....	.9	1.0
Extravagance .....	.6	.6
Neglect	1.5	2.2
Speculation .....	.4	.4
Fraud	5.8	5.7

FEWER BUSINESS FAILURES REPORTED

There were only 462 failures reported to *Bradstreet's* for April, as compared with 485 in March, 492 in February, and 573 in January; and the liabilities totaled only \$9,080,431, as against \$14,088,919 in March, \$12,581,549 in January of this year, and \$12,549,811 in April a year ago.

GARBAGE FROM HOTELS FED TO HOGS

There are from 30,000 to 40,000 hogs fed annually at Secaucus, N. J., just outside of Hoboken, on garbage collected from New York City hotels and restaurants. Yearly contracts are made for garbage, and owners of one plant handling 600 to 800 hogs paid nearly \$2,000 for their contract. This garbage is collected by wagons which make one trip each day. It must be picked over to remove shells and pieces of metal, and is then boiled to separate and remove the grease. The boiled mass is thinned with water before feeding.

DEPLETION OF BELGIUM'S LIVE STOCK DURING WAR

The government of Belgium has made public the following figures of "cattle-rustling" by the Germans during their occupation of that country: Of the 317,000 horses found in the kingdom in 1914, the Germans left only 169,000. In 1914 there were 1,877,000 head of cattle; in 1919 this number had diminished to 898,000. Before the war Belgium had 1,494,000 hogs; after the Germans got through, only 318,000 were counted.

WHERE TEXAS LEADS

A Texas paper publishes this list of things in which Texas leads the nation: live stock, land area, wild game, railway mileage, number of farms and also uncultivated acreage, cotton production, watermelons, bees, early strawberries, big league ball players.

PRICES OF LIVE STOCK IN CANADA

The milch cows of Canadian farms averaged \$87 a head in price in 1918, against \$84 in 1917; cattle under one year old, \$25, against \$24 in 1917; cattle one to less than three years old, \$57, against \$52 in 1917; and cattle three years old and over, \$88, against \$77 in 1917. Sheep on farms in Canada averaged \$16 a head in price in 1918, against \$15 in 1917; and swine, a 100 pounds, live weight, \$16, against \$17 in 1917.

HOW CONGRESSMEN EARN THEIR SALARIES

There were introduced in the Sixty-fifth Congress, which adjourned March 4, 1919, 5,680 Senate bills and 16,239 House bills. In addition to these, some 500 joint and concurrent resolutions of various kinds were introduced. A total of 348 laws were passed.

SHORTHORN BREEDERS ORGANIZE

A new organization of stockmen was recently formed at Blackfoot, Idaho, to be known as the Southeastern Idaho Shorthorn Breeders' Association. The officers are: R. A. Parsons, president; J. P. Hutchinson, vice-president; F. C. Christ, secretary-treasurer.

LAWYERS

[Life]

There are two kinds of lawyers, good ones and poor ones. The poor ones make the laws; the good ones tell us what they mean. The poorer the lawyers who make the laws, the more we have to pay those who explain them. If the good lawyers could only be given enough inducement to make our laws, then even poor lawyers could interpret them. This would be much better for us all. It wouldn't cost any more. We'd pay our good lawyers as much for making our laws as we now pay them for explaining them, and we'd pay our poor lawyers no more for explaining the laws than we now pay them for making them. The net gain would be better laws and fewer of them.

PURE-BRED HOGS FOR SOUTH AMERICA

Approximately 600 pure-bred hogs were recently shipped from eastern markets to South America, principally Argentina. Argentina and Brazil can raise corn of good quality, and they are rapidly getting into the hog business. In time they will be able to supply Europe with large quantities of pork products.

ESTRAYS

Beards in olden time were held to be sacred.

Only one celebrated poet had red hair—Swinburne.

In the forty-eight states of the Union there are 2,989 counties.

The black apes of Guinea have long silky hair, and their fur is used for muffs and capes.

Of all animals, the tiger is the worst sea traveler and the most susceptible to seasickness.

More than 25,000 persons are employed in the salmon canning industry in the state of Washington.

Whales have been known to dive at the rate of 300 yards a minute when struck by the harpoon.

One of the greatest dykes in Holland is forty miles in length and has been holding back the water for seven centuries.

Lightning purifies the air by producing nitric acid, which destroys noxious exhalations held in suspense in the air.

A flowering plant, according to the scientists, abstracts from the soil 200 times its own weight in water during its life.

In the alluvial deposits of Madagascar there have been found the remains of ostriches which were twelve or fourteen feet in height.

The three leading furniture manufacturing cities of the United States, in the order named, are Chicago, Grand Rapids, and New York City.

THE WOMAN'S CORNER

THE PRODUCER invites its women readers to send it contributions, ideas, suggestions for this department. Mere man trying to guess at a woman's tastes and preferences is hitting more or less at random. Co-operate with us in making the "Corner" just what you want it to be.

MOTHER EARTH'S INVITATION

At this time of the year nature is inviting each and every one of us to be her partner for a season of work, pleasure, and profit. If we accept this invitation in the spirit given, she will repay us a hundred fold in health, happiness, and possible wealth.

The call of the soil is irresistible. It is answered alike by the rancher and the city-dweller. "The butcher, the baker, the candlestick-maker" all are anxiously looking forward to the close of the business day, and figuring just how much they will be able to accomplish in their gardens during their hours of leisure.

The anticipation of the results and the actual digging in the dirt are a wonderful spring tonic. It soothes your exhausted nerves, and sends you to bed tired, sleepy, and at peace with the whole world.

Answer this call to the fullest extent, and watch for your reward.

"FOTCHING UP THE BOY"

[The Outlook]

My household directions for "fotching up the boy" have been short and swift. As I think of them, they follow:

By my plan of keeping clean inside just as you would keep clean outside—without comment and simply as a matter of course.

By not hounding him into a corner by too many unnecessary questions.

By never admitting in his presence that a boy is capable of underhanded doing.

By suggesting to him that, if he ever felt any superiority to any human being, he go upstairs and take a bath and get over it.

By intimating that no one is ever offended by refined language and decent manners.

By maintaining a great respect for any reserve he may have attained.

By respecting him as an individual.

By realizing that he has his own leanings, intuitions, tastes, and preferences, and that he may be an older, more inspired soul than I am.

By praising him very often.

By leaping upon him and changing conditions on the minute when he slumped.

By everlastingly sharing with him the great universal joke.

By understanding when he was bored by Milton's "Comus," and by being thrilled when he chose to read it.

By loving him when he came from the boiler-works covered with soot, and by continuing my affection when he was in fresh linen.

By accepting at home all the courtesies I wished to have him distribute abroad.

By running along with him in the study of the stars, the garden, politics, the daily news, industrial and social affairs, cookery, and everything from boilers to trench mortars.

By my faith in him.

HIS MOTHER.

THE PERFECT MODEL

By common consent of artists, the proportions of the ancient Greek sculptors are accepted as those of the ideally perfect woman.

These require five feet five inches in height. When her arms are extended she should measure exactly her height from the tip of one middle finger to the other.

The length of her hand should be a tenth of her height, her foot just a seventh, and the diameter of her chest one-fifth.

The length from the elbow to the middle finger should be the same as the length of the elbow to the middle of the chest.

From the top of the head to the chin should be the length of the foot, and from the chin to the armpits the same measurement.

With this given height, the waist should measure 27 inches; the bust, under the arms, 34 inches, and, measured outside of them, 43 inches.

The upper arm should be 13 inches, the wrist 6; the thigh 25, the calf of the leg 14½, and the ankle 8 inches.

The weight which this frame can carry gracefully is 138 pounds.

The Venus of Milo, perhaps the most perfect female figure ever chiseled by sculptor, embodies these proportions.

THE SISTER OF ANNE RUTLEDGE, LINCOLN'S FIRST LOVE, TELLS OF HIS COURTSHIP

[Literary Digest]

Abraham Lincoln's love-affair with Anne Rutledge early in his life is well known. This young lady, it is said, was his greatest inspiration in his earlier labors and a spur to his ambitions. Her untimely death plunged the future President into profound grief, followed by a protracted period of melancholy, and he cherished her memory and clung to the members of her family to the day of his death. A sister of Anne Rutledge still lives in California. She is Mrs. Sarah Rutledge Saunders, now ninety years of age. She was younger than Anne, but old enough to have vivid recollections of both her sister and Mr. Lincoln. She recently related some of these to a representative of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* where she is quoted:

"Although I was just a little girl," said Mrs. Saunders, "I distinctly recall Mr. Lincoln's presence in our home and his courtship of my sister. He was just like a member of the family.

"He was just as much at home in the kitchen as in the living-room. One time, when the handle of father's butcher's steel had worn off, Mr. Lincoln fashioned a new one of buckhorn and put it on the steel. We still have the implement, with the handle he put on with his own hands.

"We have other mementoes, too, which we cherish. One, a britannia coffee-pot of which Mr. Lincoln was particularly fond and in which my mother often brewed coffee for him. I also have a quilt made from pieces of his clothing, and many other little things by which my memories of him are refreshed. Until recently I had an old grammar which he and Anne used to study earnestly together.

"He was always kindly and gentle, and on evenings when not studying with my sister he would stretch his long legs from a chair in front of the fireplace and keep every one in an uproar with his funny tales."

Perhaps the most beloved relic in the possession of Mrs. Saunders is a little daguerreotype of Lincoln, sent by him while in the presidential chair to her brother, Robert Rutledge. This was during the Civil War, and Robert, through appointment by the President, was United States marshal for the State of Iowa. A little, old-fashioned gold frame encircles the picture, which is said to be an unusually true likeness of the donor.

This was many years after the death of Anne, and showed how he cherished the old memories and clung to the different members of the family of her whom he had so loved.

Of the congeniality and joy of the courtship of Anne and Lincoln, Sarah Rutledge has heard her mother often speak.

With Lincoln living in their home, it was almost inevitable that he and the eldest daughter should be drawn together. Anne was also a student by nature, ambitious, and said to be superior to any girl Lincoln had ever known. The Rutledges were descendants of a distinguished family, whose ancestor was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Anne was a very beautiful girl, her sister says, with hair of pale gold and eyes large

and deep blue. She was slight, graceful, and supple, her lover towering above her in his great height. Her sister remembers her as vivacious, but sincerely religious, and unusually gentle and tender-hearted.

Together the lovers studied grammar and spelling during the long winter evenings. The little grammar, a gift from Lincoln to Anne, was preserved and is in one of the historical museums of the country. Inscribed on the fly-leaf in his hand-writing are the words, "Anne Rutledge is learning grammar."

The Rutledges were a long-lived family, but it fell to Anne, beloved of Lincoln, to be the exception. Death, premature and tragic, overtook her when she was but twenty-two years of age.

Mrs. Saunders vividly recalls the fateful day when that which was earthly of Anne passed out of the life of her family, and of the gaunt man who loved her with the wonderful bigness of his heart.

In a moment of consciousness Anne sent for him when she knew the end was near. He came to her from his work in an adjoining county—rode horseback, urging the animal on in frantic premonition of what awaited him at his journey's end.

Lincoln had one anguished hour with his dying sweetheart. It was in the living-room of a pioneer cabin, untouched by grace or beauty. According to Mrs. Saunders, the house of even the well-to-do farmers in these pioneer days were seldom more than two big rooms and a sleeping loft, and privacy was the rarest privilege. Her stricken family left them, however, for this hour of parting alone. What was said between them no one ever knew; but when Anne fell into a coma, Lincoln stumbled out of the death-chamber, blind and groping.

Two days later Anne Rutledge died, with her wedding-day but three weeks off. Lincoln was at the verge of madness. A week after the funeral a friend encountered him wandering in the woods along the river muttering to himself. He sat for hours in brooding melancholy, which his friends feared would end in suicide. Many times he was found in the lonely burial-ground, seven miles from the village, with one arm across her grave, reading his pocket Testament.

Until he went to Springfield a few years later to practice law he disappeared at times. Everyone knew he was with Anne, sitting for hours by the grassy mound that covered her. "My heart is there in the grave with her," he told his friend William Green.

Eventually he went back to his old occupations, bearing himself simply, doing his duty as a man and citizen, but his fits of melancholy returned, a confirmed trait he never lost. It was said by those who knew them both that her death taught him compassion and gave him the strength to endure all the sorrows that fell to his lot after the backwoods boy had become the first citizen of the nation.

Long years after, Lincoln, in speaking of Anne to a friend, is reported to have said: "I truly loved the girl," and, after hesitating a moment, he added, "and I have loved the name of Rutledge ever since."

FOOD VALUE OF MILK

One quart of milk is about equal in food value to each of the following: three ounces of butter; two pounds of chicken; five ounces of cheese; twelve to sixteen ounces of sirloin steak; eight eggs.

EXPERIENCE

[Aline Kilmer]

Deborah danced, when she was two,
As buttercups and daffodils do;
Spirited, frail, naively bold,
Her hair a ruffled crest of gold,
And whenever she spoke her voice went singing
Like water up from a fountain springing.

But now her step is quiet and slow;
She walks the way primroses go;
Her hair is yellow instead of gilt,
Her voice is losing its lovely lilt,
And in place of her wild, delightful ways
A quaint precision rules her days.

For Deborah now is three, and oh,
She knows so much that she did not know.

MILK AND HEALTH

The National Commission of Milk Standards has made the following statements regarding milk: The price of milk to the consumer from 1914 to 1918 has in general increased from 50 to 100 per cent. The quantity consumed has fluctuated, but at the time of the report was not less than the normal or usual supply. There has been an improvement in infant mortality and a lessening of diarrheal diseases among children under two years of age, and this improvement has not been checked by the advance in the price of milk between 1914 and 1918. There is evidence of a serious condition of undernourishment among children of school age, due, as the commission believes, to improperly regulated diet and to poverty, but to a larger extent to lack of appreciation of the value of milk as compared with other foods.

THE COOK'S DOMAIN

CHERRY PUDDING

One and a third cup of sugar; butter the size of an egg; one cup milk; two cups flour, sifted with two teaspoonfuls baking-powder; one egg, the yolk and white beaten separately. Mix all these ingredients, whipping to a smooth batter. Pour this over a quart of canned cherries from which the juice has been drained, and steam for one-half hour. To make the sauce for this pudding, mix together one and a third cups of sugar, one-quarter cup butter, one tablespoonful of flour, and the juice from the cherries. Cook until thick and smooth, stirring all the time.

PORK CHOPS WITH TOMATO SAUCE

Six pork chops, three cupfuls tomatoes, six medium potatoes, one onion, one-half cup flour, and salt, pepper, and butter. Put chops in roast-pan and season. Over the chops place the seasoned tomatoes and sliced onion. Sprinkle with flour, and put a few pieces of butter on them. Now cover them with sliced potatoes cut one-fourth inch thick. Add enough water to cook. Baste frequently. They should be done in one hour.

HERE AND THERE

Statistics gathered from many lands show that married women live an average of two years longer than single ones.

Louisiana and New Mexico are now the only states in the vast territory west of the Mississippi in which women are denied the privileges of the ballot.

More than 1,000,000 women, scattered throughout the United States, have enlisted in the National Security League's pro-American educational propaganda to combat Bolshevism.

Although the women of Holland have not gained the parliamentary franchise, they have the satisfaction of seeing one of their sex sitting as a member of parliament.

Nearly one-fourth of all the factory workers in India are women.

Rumanian women are credited with possessing the best heads of hair of any women in the world.

The British government is now paying out more than \$1,500,000 a week in unemployment bonuses to women workers.

More than 80,000 women office workers have joined trade-union organizations in America during the past year.

Women's Independence Day is to be celebrated by Rhode Island suffragists on July 1, which will be the first day on which the women of that state may register for voting on presidential electors.

Women employed in steam laundries in Seattle have been granted a minimum wage of \$15 a week.

Women in the employ of the state of Texas are assured by law of receiving equal pay with men for equal service performed.

Women's organizations in Colorado and Wyoming have been the first to agitate for laws to protect child labor on the farm.

The only classes of elective offices remaining in Kansas that have not been "invaded" by women are those of sheriff and county attorney.

Miss Helen Dowe, of Denver, has been appointed a lookout by the Forest Service, and will spend the summer on Devil's Head Mountain, forty miles southwest of Denver. It will be her duty to report forest fires in an area of 7,000 square miles, including Pike's Peak.

In Finland, where women have had the franchise since 1906, the female voters outnumber the male by nearly 100,000. In the national election of 1917 (the first since Finland secured her independence) there were 686,549 qualified male voters and 754,526 qualified female voters. Of these, 501,647 men and 496,018 women went to the polls—or 74 per cent of the men and 66 per cent of the women. The diet contains 200 members, of whom eighteen are women. A majority of these belong to the Socialist party.

THE KIDS' CORRAL

TO THE BOYS AND GIRLS:

We want to make *THE PRODUCER* your paper, too. We are going to give you a department all your own—"The Kids' Corral" it will be called. We shall try to make it interesting to you, but we want you to help us by writing and telling us just what you wish us to put into it—jokes, rhymes, little stories, games, or bits of information about the big world outside. All boys and girls have questions to ask—perhaps we can answer some of yours for you. Write to us anyway; we shall always be glad to hear from you. Address your letters to

THE PRODUCER,
515 Cooper Building,
Denver, Colorado.

THIS WIDE WORLD

TO EVERY real Frenchman, Paris has always been the center of the universe. In a peculiar sense this has been true for the past five months. Since the middle of December the big statesmen of the world have been sitting at the capital of France working out a plan, not only for ending the great war, but for securing a lasting peace and instituting a reign of liberty and justice on earth.

Naturally the problem is not an easy one. Where so many peoples, each with its own ideas and interests, are involved, it is hard to find a solution that will satisfy everybody. From time to time the representatives of various nations, like sulky boys at play, have threatened to quit, because they could not have it all their own way. But, in spite of the many difficulties, the conference is making progress.

The first thing to do, of course, is to make Germany, and the countries that fought on her side, atone for their crime in starting the war and conducting it in such a cruel manner. They will be required to pay billions and billions of dollars to build up Belgium, northern France, and the other lands that they plundered and laid waste. They must give back Alsace-Lorraine, which they took from France in 1871; Sleswic, which they stole from Denmark in 1864; their share of the old kingdom of Poland, which in past centuries they united with Russia and Austria to crush and divide. Their colonies will be taken away from them. Their powerful army—the mightiest the world has ever seen—will be reduced to 100,000 men; of their fine navy—second only to England's—there will be left them but a few small vessels. As if she were a rattlesnake, Germany's fangs must be drawn, so that she cannot again endanger the peace of the world for many, many years to come.

These terms may seem severe, but are they not just? The Germans are whining, saying they will be ruined. They are threatening to refuse to sign the Peace Treaty. They may refuse now, but eventually they will have to accept whatever conditions the Allies impose. If they don't, we will shut off their food supplies, our armies will occupy their chief cities, and their own people probably will start a new and bloody revolution, because the laboring men are anxious to go back to work so that they may have something to eat.

After the Allies are through with Germany, they will deal with Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, and Turkey in the same way. Each must make restitution for the misery and destruction it has wrought, give up what doesn't belong to it, and set free the peoples it has oppressed. Palestine will be restored to the Jews, and Armenia will be liberated from the yoke of "the unspeakable Turk," as Gladstone used to call him on account of his incredible atrocities against that defenseless nation. He will be deprived of Constantinople, his capital, and pushed back into Asia, where he came from and where he belongs.

In that way nationalities that have long been separated will be united once more, and a number of new states will be carved out of the territories of our vanquished enemy. The map of the world is going to look very different in the future; we shall all have to learn geography over again!

After peace has been restored, the great League of Nations will begin its work. This, as you know, is to be an association of all the peaceful, progressive, right-think-

[Continued on next page.]

HAVE YOU JOINED ONE OF UNCLE SAM'S CLUBS?

Uncle Sam is busy organizing the boys and girls of the country into clubs—Calf Clubs, Lamb Clubs, Pig Clubs, Garden Clubs, and many other kinds of clubs. The children get together, have their fathers give them a few young animals, or a piece of ground, to start with, and raise the animals themselves—often on stuff they have grown in their own gardens. Sometimes the different clubs compete to see which can produce the best pigs or calves, or get the most out of a season's crop. In that way the children not only get a lot of fun, but they learn how to know and care for the things on the farms and ranches, and—what is more—they have a fine chance to earn some real money through their own efforts.

If you are not a member of such a club, why not start one this summer? Write to the Agricultural College in your state, or to the Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C., and they will tell you all about it.

MANY PIGS AND LAMBS SALVAGED BY CHILDREN OF FARMING CLUBS

Many weak "orphan" lambs and pigs, requiring too much care for the average farmer or ranchman to bother with, are salvaged by the boys and girls belonging to the clubs organized by the United States Department of Agriculture and the state colleges. Patience, care, and good nursing by a youngster have brought to maturity animals which otherwise would not have survived infancy. As a result, the meat supply is increased, and the boy or girl is enabled to earn money.

The father of a little girl in Anson County, N. C., who was very anxious to join a pig club, repeatedly refused to give her a pig. One of his pigs did not do well last year, and he tried to sell the "runt" for \$1, but could not find a buyer. His wife persuaded him to give the friendless pig to the little girl. Care and careful feeding brought it to maturity. After a while the club member's herd was increased to six. The little girl traded the best two of the litter to her father for sole possession of the mother hog, and sold the other three for \$15. Having now acquired a membership in the pig club, she plans to continue in the work.

JUNIORS INVEST BIG TOTAL

The Iris Club Juniors, of Lancaster, Pa., have 252 members pledged to a minimum saving and investment of \$1 apiece each month in War Savings Stamps. During 1918 this club made personal investments and sales amounting to approximately \$25,000.

Are you helping Uncle Sam by buying War Savings Stamps?

ing people in the world, who will band together to protect the weak and make the bullies realize that *war doesn't pay*. Quarrels that may arise between countries will be settled in a peaceable way by the league acting as umpire. If any should refuse to obey its decisions, all the rest will jump on it and compel it to behave. Even Germany, we may be sure, would have thought twice before starting the World War, had she known that she would have to fight practically all the rest of humanity. The League of Nations is to have its headquarters at Geneva, Switzerland.

The idea of the league, as you know, is President Wilson's. Since last December he has been in Paris working hard to put it through. It is the first time a president of the United States has been absent from the country during his term in office. Many people in America thought Mr. Wilson should have stayed at home, and criticized him severely for going. But he felt he could do more good abroad. And, really, as you are aware, the country has not altogether gone to the bow-wows just because the White House has been untenanted.

On May 19 the Sixty-sixth Congress convened in extraordinary session at Washington, called together by the President by cable. Many important matters require its attention—among them the disposition of the railroad, telegraph, and telephone lines, which were taken over by the government during the war, but which most people now feel should be handed back to their owners. The new Congress, elected last November, was not due to meet until December—more than a year after its election and less than a year before a new one will have to be elected. Don't you think that law ought to be changed?

The event of the past month in which you perhaps were most interested was the flight across the Atlantic. Exactly one hundred years after the first steamship (the "Savannah," which also flew the American flag) crossed the ocean, an American aviator, Commander A. C. Read, of the United States navy, in his seaplane, NC-4, made the trip in five laps—from Long Island to Nova Scotia, to Newfoundland, to the Azores, to Portugal, to England. The "Savannah" was twenty-five days on the way; whereas the actual flying time of the NC-4 from continent to continent—a distance of 3,150 miles—was only forty-three hours and thirty-two minutes. Two other planes started, but did not complete the journey. Destroyers were stationed at fifty-mile intervals along the entire route, to direct the airmen, and rescue them if need be.

At the same time a daring young Australian, Harry Hawker, set out in an ordinary biplane on what was to have been a 1,900-mile non-stop flight from Newfoundland to Ireland. Engine trouble, however, compelled Harry to descend in mid-ocean, and everybody believed him lost. Fortunately, a passing steamer found him and picked him up. He is now in England, ready to try again.

UNCLE SAM'S BIG GAME HUNTERS

[Literary Digest]

Every small boy who owns an air-rifle will begin plans for the future when he hears that the United States government employs a permanent staff of about 300 professional hunters to shoot wolves, mountain lions, grizzly bears, and other marauding beasts. All that these fortunate woodsmen, plainsmen, and mountaineers have to do is to shoot the animals that prey on sheep and cattle in the western states! Since the fall of 1915, when this corps of hunters was organized, it has done considerable execution. The bag includes 60,473 coyotes, 8,094 bobcats, 1,829 wolves, 201 mountain lions, and 137 bears. The government receives a neat little income from the pelts, too. For one year's kill this amounted to about \$100,000.

Let us see just what damage a predatory animal can do. Take, for example, the case of one Wyoming stockman. Last May two male wolves visited his ranch and got away with one hundred head of sheep and seven colts. Then they turned their attention to the rancher's neighbor and

hit him to the tune of fifty sheep. A government hunter ran the marauding pair down and killed them.

Here are the government's estimates of the annual depredations among cattle and sheep by a single predatory animal: wolf, \$1,000; stock-killing grizzly bear, \$500; mountain lion, \$500; bobcat, \$50; coyote, \$50.

A LITTLE TREE

[Enos A. Mills]

I never see a little tree peeping confidently up among the withered leaves without wondering what trials and triumphs it will have.

I hope it will live with rapture in the flower-opening days of spring; that it will be a home for birds and hear their low, sweet mating-songs; and that it will find life worth living and live long to better and to beautify the earth.

If it is cut down, may it become the ridge-log of a cabin where love will abide; or if it must be burned, I hope it will blaze on the hearthstone of a home where children play in the firelight on the floor.

GEE-UP DAR, MULES

[Edwin Ford Piper in Contemporary Verse]

He stood up in our khaki with the poise
Of perfect soldiery beneath the praise
Of the French officer. We caught the words,
"Conspicuous courage," "bringing wounded in,"
And "decorated with the Cross of War."

Black-faced? Yes, just a nigger. Nine months since
He drove a span of bony cotton mules,
And never had been out of Jasper County
In Georgia, U. S. A.

They drafted him,
Shipped him to barracks, broke him into drill;
It was a changeling's life. I saw the lad
After his first three days in cantonment;
He had just finished polishing his teeth—
Novel achievement, and he swung the brush
With beat ecstatic, chanting joyously:

"Lordy, lordy, got a toothbresh,
Lordy, lordy, got a toothbresh,
Lordy, lordy, got a toothbresh,
And I'll go to heaven on a-high!"

Perhaps he sings now of the service-medal,
Or of some other meager badge or symbol
Out of that rich and shattering experience
Hurled round his simple soul. With hasty hand,
Life sweeps a loaded vivifying brush
Over his old dull past.

And yet, I like
To think he will come back to Jasper County;
I picture him in patched and faded denims;
Over the wagon-wheel he mounts the seat,
Evens the lines so the lead team won't jerk;
Then all together the four nervous mules
Will straighten tugs, dig in their toes, and pull.
She shakes, she creaks, she rolls!

"Gee-up dar, mules!"

"General Foch is a fine old French,
He puts us niggers in a front-line trench;
The barb-wire down, and the barrage begun—
BOCHE she a nigger, and the BOCHE he run.

O po' mourner!

You shall be free

When the good Lord sets you free!

"Oh, I hitched up the mules, the mules worked fine;
I hitched 'em to that Hinnenburg line,
I drewed her back till I snagged her on the Rhine,
An' the boss come along, and he give me my time.

O po' mourner!

You shall be free

When the good Lord sets you free.

Gwan-n, mules! Gee-up dar, mules!"

A BRILLIANT THOUGHT

[Punch]

A thrifty old lady of Hull,
Whose intellect seemed rather dull,
When reading at night,
To economize light,
Put luminous paint on her skull.

Logical Wish.—On the outskirts of Philadelphia is an admirable stock farm. One day last summer some poor children were permitted to go over this farm, and, when their inspection was done, to each of them was given a glass of milk. The milk was excellent.

"Well, boys, how do you like it?" the farmer said, when they had drained their glasses.

"Fine," said one little fellow. Then after a pause, he added: "I wisht our milkman kept a cow."—Journal of the American Medical Association.

THE POETS' PEN

On February 9, the Sunday dedicated as Roosevelt Memorial Day, the following song, of which we quote three stanzas, was sung at some of the memorial exercises:

FRIEND OF THE WORLD

[Harriet Gaylord]

Flowers of love we are bringing,
Friend of the World,
Plucked from hearts that are bleeding,
Hearts that are aching with needing,
Needing the Friend of the World.
Countless millions, we're bending,
Bending with spirits furred,
Over that grave where you're resting,
Great-hearted Friend of the World.

Eagle, now flown to your eaglet,
Friend of the World,
Up to your starry bowers
Rear we our mountains of flowers.
Love for the Friend of the World.
Friend of the humble and needy;
Friend of the bird and beast;
Friend of the king and the pauper;
Friend of the rabbi and priest.
King of men and good fellows,
Friend of the World,
You loved your life and you gave it,
Not stinting or trying to save it,
Because you were Friend to the World.
You did not know you were tired;
You would not have chosen to rest;
You fought to the end for things noble,
Things deepest, sincerest, and best.

This touching tribute was penned by Roosevelt's sister:

TO MY BROTHER

[Corinne Roosevelt Robinson]

I loved you for your loving ways,
The ways that many did not know;
Although my heart would beat and glow
When nations crowned you with their bays.

I loved you for the tender hand
That held my own so close and warm;
I loved you for the winning charm
That brought gay sunshine to the land.

I loved you for the heart that knew
The need of every little child;
I loved you when you turned and smiled—
It was as though a fresh wind blew.

I loved you for your loving ways,
The look that leapt to meet my eye,
The ever-ready sympathy,
The generous ardor of your praise.

I loved you for the buoyant fun
That made perpetual holiday
For all who ever crossed your way,
The highest or the humblest one.

I loved you for the radiant zest,
The thrill and glamour that you gave
To each glad hour that we could save
And garner from Time's grim behest.

I loved you for your loving ways—
And just because I loved them so,
And now have lost them—thus I know
I must go softly all my days!

The spell which history weaves around names is aptly described in the following lines:

WHEN I READ NAMES OF ENGLAND

[B. K. Van Slyke in *Atlantic Monthly*]

When I read names of England
Old as the Druid stones,
I fall into a dream of men
Now but a dust of bones.
Around Tintagel hangs the shroud
Of fame of crumbled kings;
Though Quarley Down is pasture now,
Anciently it sings.

Ambleside and Bow Fell,
St. Anne's-on-the-Sea:
The quaintness of an elder day
Imparts their wizardry.
Do they speak out to Englishmen
With strange and haunting notes?
Does long-familiar music still
Tighten the English throats?

If I were a British yeoman,
Caught by the spell of a name,
I wonder if Vermont would burn
With Cornwall's primrose flame?
Would there be mystery in these—
Tombstone and Buffalo?
And in Chicago, scarred with wounds
London does not know?

Quarley Down was young once,
Clovelly not at all;
Two thousand years and Michigan
Will bear the eyes of Saul;
Two thousand years and one will sigh,
Dreaming over the word,
Michigan! Michigan!
And I shall have heard.

All the melancholy of Erin breathes through these verses:

IN KERRY

[John Jay I. Chapman]

The primrose path winds down the hill
And round the lough—in Kerry!
And the west wind harps a lyric
That is older than the sea.
The hawthorn buds are breaking,
And the birds are making merry
In every tangled hedgerow,
And in every whispering tree.

In the rainbow hush of dawning
A missel-thrush will call me,
And me not there to answer,
Or to follow that light wing
Through woodland and through water,
Not caring what befell me,
So I catch a lilting cadence
Like the song the fairies sing.

And the shamrocks, Oh, the shamrocks!
The soft, sweet rain is falling
Like a silver veil around them,
And they're laughing like with glee.
And the heart of me is homesick,
For the old sweet ways are calling,
It's spring, it's spring—in Kerry!
And me not there to see!

Estrangement, separation, and the grief that follows, find forceful expression in this old-time ballad:

SONG

[John Jay Chapman]

I

Old Farmer Oats and his son Ned
They quarreled about the old mare's bed,
And some hard words by each were said,
Sing, sing, ye all!

CHORUS

Let every man stand for what is in his hand, say I,
Let every man give to keep a man alive, say I,
For it's all one when all's done,
Ye'll keep none when death's come, say I!

II

Then Oats he bade the boy be hanged;
So up he stormed and out he banded;
And away to the heath and the wars he's ganged.
Sing, sing, ye all!—CHORUS.

III

Old Farmer Oats with his bent head
Is ever thinking of his son Ned,
And whether the lad be alive or dead.
Sing, sing, ye all!—CHORUS.

IV

And every beggar and every thief
May go to the old man for relief;
For love is love and grief is grief.
Sing, sing, ye all!—CHORUS.

The approaching national drought has inspired the following characteristic laments:

[Maurice Switzer in *Judge*]

Dry country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing.
Ere Prohibition's tide
Swept o'er the nation wide,
Luck'ly my fathers died;
They had their fling.

My native country, thee,
Dry as a saddle-tree,
Thy name I praise.
Closed are thy many stills;
Soon must I seek the rills
When thirst my larynx drills,
My tongue ablaze.

Let Prohibition breeze—
Once but a party wheeze—
Go to it strong!
Let every smoker quake—
Or his tobacco shake—
Down with the dance! awake!
Push it along!

Jupiter Pluvius,
Parched as Vesuvius
Am I, O King!
After July the first
If I am ever cursed
With an old-fashioned thirst,
No more I'll sing!

[George Arnold]

Here
With my beer
I sit,
While golden moments flit:
Alas!
They pass
Unheeded by:
And as they fly,
I,
Being dry,
Sit, idly sipping here
My beer.

THE SPICE BOX

The League-of-Nation-al Hymn.—"Why do you object to the League of Nations?"

"On musical grounds. After singing 'My Country, 'Tis of Thee,' all these years I don't want the mental effort of changing to 'Our Countries, 'Tis of Those.'"—Washington Star.

How Did It Get There?—Mrs. Clarke came running hurriedly into her husband's office one morning.

"Oh, Dick," she cried, as she gasped for breath. "I dropped my diamond ring off my finger, and I can't find it anywhere."

"It's all right, Bess," replied Mr. Clarke. "I came across it in my trousers pocket."—London Tit-Bits.

A Careful and Thorough Job.—Efficiency is an admirable quality, but it can be overdone, according to Representative M. Clyde Kelly, of Pennsylvania. "Last election day," Mr. Kelly explains, "the city editor of my newspaper in Braddock sent his best reporter out to learn if the saloons were open in defiance of the law. Four days later he returned and reported, 'They were.'"—San Francisco Argonaut.

Bad Place for Eyes.—"Rather a dangerous place to visit is described in this paper," said a wag to his neighbor.

"What place is that?" asked the latter.

"Well," responded the first speaker, "it's a historical mansion in the Midlands. This is what the account says: 'On first entering the hall, the visitor's eye is caught by a long sword over one side of the mantel, and then drawn to the old flintlock on the other side; after which it naturally falls on the mantel itself, and from that to the old brick-tiled hearth.' Neither of my eyes would stand that sort of thing!"—London Tit-Bits.

Why Editors Drink the Ink.—We wish to apologize to Mrs. Orville Overholt. In our paper last week we had as a heading, "Mrs. Overholt's Big Feet." The word we had ought to have used is a French word, pronounced the same way, but spelled fete. It means a celebration and is considered a very tony word.—Williamsville (N. D.) Item.

Watchful Waiting.—JUDGE (to witness)—"Why didn't you go to the help of the defendant in the fight?"

WITNESS—"I didn't know which was going to be the defendant."—Boston Transcript.

Giving Her a Tip.—"Bridget, I don't want you to have so much company. Why, you have more callers in a day than I have in a week."

"Well, mum, perhaps if you'd try to be a little more agreeable, you'd have as many friends as I have."—Boston Transcript.

Black and Green.—An old colored man was burning dead grass when a "wise guy" stopped and said: "You're foolish to do that, Uncle Eb; it will make the meadow as black as you are."

"Don't worry 'bout dat, sah," responded Uncle Eb. "Dat grass will grow out an' be as green as you is."—Boston Transcript.

An Instrument of Precision.—DIBBS—"Do you believe that there is really something which can invariably tell when a man is lying?"

HIGGS—"I know it."

DIBBS—"Ah! Perhaps you have seen one of the instruments?"

HIGGS—"Seen one? I married one!"—London Tit-Bits.

The Final Touch.—"You can't complain of the price of wheat now."

"No," replied Farmer Cornloss. "But they might go a leetle further and guarantee us the money without puttin' us to so much trouble raisin' the wheat."—Washington Star.

Invidious Distinction.—A colored sentinel challenged another colored soldier who seemed to be carrying something inside the lines.

"Who goes there?" he asked.

"Lieutenant with a jug o' gin," was the answer.

"Pass, Lieutenant! Halt, gin!" commanded the sentry.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Ups and Downs of Language.—"Did you call Edith up this morning?"

"Yes, but she wasn't down."

"But why didn't you call her down?"

"Because she wasn't up."

"Then call her up now and call her down for not being down when you called her up."—Boston Transcript.

Another Libel.—"What's the disturbance in the market-place?"

"It's a mass-meeting of the women who've changed their minds since the morning and want to alter their voting papers."—Punch.

There Are Limits.—"Your cousin's medical practice, I suppose, doesn't amount to much yet."

"No. We relatives do all we can, but of course we can't be sick all the time."—Boston Transcript.

Deeds That Count.—"When a man courts a girl, it is deeds, not words, that count."

"Yes, especially if they are real-estate deeds."—Baltimore American.

There Was a Reason.—"Darling, I cooked dinner for you all myself, and you've never said a word about it."

"I would have, dearest, but somehow I hate to be always complaining."—London Tit-Bits.

The Ultimate in Gloom.—Hook—"Old-boy is the most melancholy fellow I know."

CROOK—"You're right. He proposed to a girl once by asking her how she would like to become his widow."—London Tit-Bits.

The Optimist.—"Woman," he hissed, "woman, do you thus spurn my heart after leading me on?"

"When did I lead you on, as you call it?" asked the girl.

"Did you not tell me that that fortune-teller had told you that you were to wed a handsome blond young man, with the grace of a Greek god and the voice of an eolian harp?"—London Tit-Bits.

Exercise and Refreshment.—Sign in New York—"Cup of Coffee and a Roll Down-stairs for 15 Cents."—Boston Transcript.

A Story from France.—A Paris shopkeeper wrote to one of his customers as follows: "I am able to offer you cloth like the inclosed sample at ten francs per meter. In case I do not hear from you I shall conclude that you wish to pay only eight francs. In order to lose no time, I accept the last-mentioned price."—Chicago Tribune.

It Takes the Irish.—PAT—"This is the foist time innny of these corporations hev done innnything to binnefit the working-man."

MIKE—"How is that, Pat?"

PAT—"It is this siven-cint fare. I hev bin walkin' to and from me work and savin' tin cints, and now I kin save fourteen cints."—Boston Transcript.

Prices Get Us All Up.—"Did you try the simple plan of counting sheep for your insomnia?"

"Yes, doctor, but I made a mess of it. I counted 10,000 sheep, put 'em on the train, and shipped 'em to market. And when I'd got through counting the money I got for them at present prices it was time to get up."—Farm and Home.

MARKET CLASSES OF BEEF CATTLE*[Wallace's Farmer]*

If definite and easily recognized market classes could be determined for beef cattle sold on the market, it would be a fine thing for everybody. Sellers could then form a fairly definite idea of about what the particular class of cattle in their feed-lots sell for from day to day. Armour & Company are doing some good educational work on this line. In their April bulletin they list the eight principal types of market cattle, as follows:

"Prime Heavies—Two years and up, not often under two years. Weigh 1,350 to 1,500 pounds. Can get all of the best or prime cuts from them.

"Medium Natives—Bullocks weighing from 950 to 1,400 pounds (generally run from 950 to 1,200 pounds). These usually come in the class of cattle fed in the neighborhood of 60 to 100 days.

"Fair—Cattle that carry a fair amount of flesh and have had some grain, and showing a general covering of fat. Weigh generally from 850 to 1,100 or 1,150 pounds, although their flesh and fat are more of an item than the actual weight.

"Common—Cattle that have not been cared for. Have had no special feed and have lived on whatever they could get.

"Canners—Just thin cows with a certain amount of age. Some thin, light steers from the Southwest—Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas—used also, but generally cows.

"Baby Beef—Anywhere from 800 up to 1,150 pounds. Young, of excellent quality, and long-fed, well-finished cattle.

"Grass-Fed—Graded as 'Westerns'—good, medium, and fair. They do not have quite the conformation that the native cattle have, and the meat is coarser, due to the immense amount of exercise they get.

"Bulls—In a class to themselves. Used for bologna and other sausages, and for some special trade."

TUBERCULOUS CATTLE SHIPPED TO SOUTH

Pending the outcome of an investigation by the Bureau of Animal Industry into the sources of tuberculous cattle lately shipped to southern states, persons about to buy stock, especially dairy animals, are cautioned by the Department of Agriculture to make full inquiry into the health of the stock and the sanitary conditions on the farms from which the animals come.

DOCKING LAMBS*[Wallace's Farmer]*

Cutting off the tails of lambs seems to give better satisfaction than the hot-iron method. In Australian experiments they found that healing was much more rapid after cutting than after searing with a hot iron. The best time for docking seems to be when the lamb is from one to four weeks old. Concerning the cutting of the tails, the Nebraska station gives the following suggestions:

"Catch the lamb and stick his head between your legs. Let him stand on the ground. With the left hand, find the second joint in the tail from the body. Grasp the tail firmly. Place a sharp knife under the lamb's tail and pull it up, cutting it off quickly and clean. The skin is thus left in the best shape for rapid healing. In case of severe bleeding, take a string that has first been placed in dip to render it sanitary, and tie the lamb's tail near the cut end. Do not leave the string on longer than ten hours, or it will cause swelling and great discomfort to the lamb. At the end of a few hours it usually has done its duty anyway, and can be removed."

CATTLE IN THE FLINT HILLS PASTURE

The prospects for an increase in the weight of cattle grazing in the Flint Hills pasture of Kansas are better this season than at any time in recent years. Owing to the unusually heavy rainfall during the early part of the season, conditions in that section are excellent with respect to both grass and water. Nevertheless the movement of cattle into the district has so far been slower than a year ago. This is probably due to the fact that last season severe droughts prevailed in Texas, where most of the cattle using the Flint Hills pasture come from, while this year conditions are favorable in that state.

Two Strings to Her Beau.—HE—"If you could have two wishes come true, what would you wish for?"

SHE (frankly)—"Well, I'd wish for a husband."

HE—"That's only one."

SHE—"I'd save the other wish until I saw how he turned out."—Boston Transcript.

A Mere Detail.—MA—"No, Gladys will not become engaged until she is twenty."

PA—"But, my dear woman, she may not get the chance when she is twenty."

MA—"Well, then, she will remain twenty until she does."—London Mail.

Floating Stock.—SMITHSON—"Do you know that Noah was the greatest financier that ever lived?"

DIBBS—"How do you make that out?"

SMITHSON—"Well, he was able to float a company when the whole world was in liquidation."—London Tit-Bits.

Reason Enough.—An English militant crusader strolled into a barn where a young man was milking a cow. With a snort she asked: "How is it that you are not at the front, young man?"

"Because, ma'am," answered the milker, "there ain't no milk at that end."

Another Problem Solved.—A form of address neither too formal nor too fresh, and covering both sexes, was employed by a Missouri man who, writing to a company in Arkansas which raises hogs, chickens, etc., began: "Dear Breeders."—Chicago Tribune.

How He Got It.—A colored veteran just back from the other side, when questioned about an iron cross he was wearing, explained:

"Boss, it was a extra decoration. De Kaiser hisself sent it to me by a special messenger what dropped daid jus' befo' he give it to me."—New York Globe.

Anyone Could.—ELSIE—"My grandpa has reached the age of ninety-six. Isn't it wonderful?"

BOBBY—"Wonderful nothin'! Look at the time it's taken him to do it."—Boston Transcript.

Too Well Taken.—"The points in Brown's speech were well taken, I thought."

"Yes; most of them from other men."—Boston Transcript.

Watch the Leaks! Are you watching them as closely as you should in the marketing of your Live Stock? No matter how well you produce, select or feed, if you are lame in your Marketing Method, you have failed all the way.

Write or wire us for quotations—we want to serve you.

Spokane Union Stock Yards

SPOKANE, WASH. P. O. BOX 2185

Denver National Bank

CAPITAL \$1,000,000. SURPLUS AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS \$1,450,000
MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE BANK, District No. 10

"This bank is also empowered by Federal Reserve Charter to act as Trustee, Executor, Administrator, Registrar of Stocks and Bonds, Guardian of Estates, Assignee, Receiver, Committee of Estates of Lunatics, or other Fiduciary capacity."

Will pay interest at the rate of 4 per cent per annum under the usual rules governing Savings Accounts.
Deposits made on or before the 5th of the month will draw interest from the first.

LIVE STOCK LOANS GIVEN CAREFUL ATTENTION

The Drovers Cattle Loan Company

ASSOCIATED WITH THE DROVERS STATE BANK

Corner 47th AVE. and LAFAYETTE ST.
DENVER, COLORADO

AT ENTRANCE TO DENVER UNION STOCK YARDS

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

FRANK J. DENISON, President GORDON HOLLIS, Vice-President
ANDREW G. HORN, Secretary-Treasurer
F. W. BOOT JOSEPH P. MURPHY ARTHUR S. PLATT GROVER E. TOTTEN

The Hamilton National Bank

DENVER, COLORADO

OFFICERS

James C. Burger, President William H. Kistler, Chairman of the Board
Patrick Crowe, Vice-President Jesse F. McDonald, Vice-President
Edward J. Weckbach, Cashier George T. Atchison, Assistant Cashier
August Schmidt, Assistant Cashier

DIRECTORS

James C. Burger William H. Kistler Patrick Crowe Dr. Charles B. Lyman
William J. Barker Jesse F. McDonald Rodney J. Bardwell Christopher F. Clay
William C. Sterne Harry H. Post Edward J. Weckbach A. T. Young

RESOURCES \$6,000,000

NORTH TULE STOCK FARM

For Sale—Carload of registered Hereford Bulls, 12 to 20 months old. Nearly all by DONALD 567599, a linebred Beau Donald bull with a wealth of bone, a sire of the big, strong, heavy-coated kind so popular in the West. A few by TIPPECANOE 11TH 413960.

ALSO A CARLOAD OF HEIFERS OF SAME AGES AND BREEDING.

Write for prices.

C. C. POFF, TULIA, TEXAS



If you want a Stock Ranch and Range well stocked with Cattle or Sheep, or if you want Cattle or Sheep, write

McELROY & HAWKES
403-404 Ness Building
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Sunnyside Stock Farm

Ottawa, Illinois

J. J. HORNUNG, Proprietor

Breeder of Pure-Bred Hereford Cattle and Percheron Horses.

Specialty: Range Bulls, in car lots or as desired.



FOR SALE. A bunch of registered Shropshire Rams, ready for service, priced worth the money. Also registered Ewes.
HOWARD CHANDLER, Charlton, Ia.

Human Limits.—He was a perfect wonder, was the parliamentary candidate for a certain agricultural district. And he was never shy of telling the voters why they should return him as their M. P.

"I am 'a practical farmer," said he, boastfully, at one meeting. "I can plow, reap, milk cows, work a chaff-cutter, shoe a horse—in fact," he went on, proudly, "I should like you to tell me any one thing about a farm, which I cannot do."

Then, in the impressive silence, a small voice asked from the back of the crowd:

"Can you lay an egg?"—London Tit-Bits.